



SOCCER ACTION

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΙΣ : 15

Jugoslovenska
scena st. 14.

REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION - CATEGORY B

Vol. 5, No. 3 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1980

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60 cents

Brennan joins Canberra



Striker Tony Brennan (pictured in a match against Footscray), transferred from Brisbane Lions to Canberra City in a \$20,000 deal at the weekend. Brennan and other star recruits are set to make Canberra one of the top clubs in the PSL. See page 2.

Star out?

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By JOHNNY WARREN



Tony Henderson is almost certain to miss Australia's third and final international against Czechoslovakia at Olympic Park, Melbourne, on Saturday at 8 pm.

Henderson went off injured during the 0-5 loss to Czechoslovakia at the Sydney Sports Ground last Sunday and told me afterwards his doctor had advised him to rest for six weeks.

Henderson has a hip and groin injury, apparently sustained on the Soccerroos' tour of China and Taiwan.

His replacement in Melbourne is likely to be Jim Campbell of Heidelberg or perhaps George Christopoulos of South Melbourne. Both came on as substitutes in Sydney.

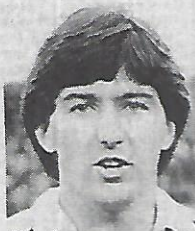
Henderson played at centre back in the first Test (0-4) in Canberra but moved up into midfield in Sydney, with Arno Bertonga going to centre back.

Although the 0-5 loss on Sunday was our biggest international defeat since North Korea thrashed us 6-1 in the 1985 World Cup elimination series, Australia at least turned in a commendable first half.

During this period, there was more method, discipline and spirit about the Soccerroos' play and Rudi Gutendorf's policy of containment proved effective. Australia could even have taken the lead with a chance by Henderson.

In Melbourne, the Soccerroos will have to extend that first-half performance for the full 90 minutes if they hope to escape with a respectable result.

Continued p.3.



Jim Campbell

THE SOCCEROOS

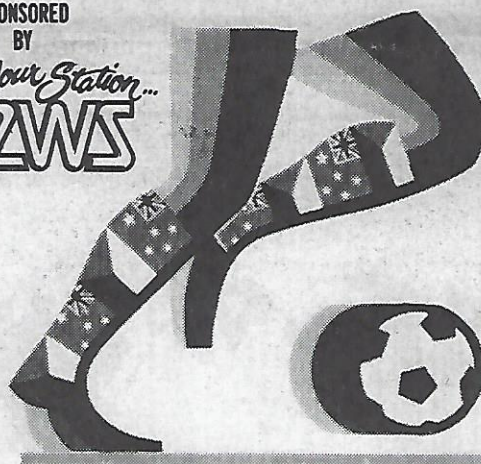
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What are we coming to?

Four Ampol Cup games were postponed because the pitch happened to be wet!

I had the opportunity to walk on to the pitch at Barton Park and found it in perfect shape for the two games featured: Yugal-Bankstown and Auburn-Inter. However, the gates were shut and the groundsman was waving his arm in a manner which suggested that "all is finished".

"Come another time," was about the best one could draw from the whole mess. But before you come, please contact the weather bureau as it may advise of overcast conditions that might prevail. If that is the case, all players

are to retire to the bridge or canasta rooms while the local medicine man does a prayer for the return of sunny conditions.

Kevin Darcy of the NSW Soccer Federation was unable to tell me when the postponed games will be played but was likewise upset over the postponement of the Friday fixtures.

In case you didn't know, the Ampol Cup will either return to Sydney tonight (Wednesday) or be postponed again. If games are postponed, we don't know when they will be replayed. All those wishing to go to soccer, please contact the Weather Bureau. They also play with a round ball, but their's is made of Crystal.

Here is the official NSW Soccer Federation program:

St George Stadium: (Wednesday, 6.2.1980) 7.15; Parramatta City - Sydney Olympic. 9.00
Avala-Melita Eagles, Seymour Shaw Park: (Wed. 6.2.1980) 7.15: North Sydney - Arncliffe 9.00
Yugal - Auburn.

St George Stadium: (Friday 8.2.1980; 7.15 Sutherland - Manly, 9.00 Croatia-Wollongong.

ARNCLIFFE S1
Stadium: St George
Crowd: 2054
Referee: B. Fowler 8
Yellow cards: Vernon Darvill (54')
Goals: Leak (58') Babian (83')

ARNCLIFFE SCOTS:
Marsden 9, Ramisch 7, Smart 7, Oldham 8, Ainslie 8, Luckett 7, Stone 5, Leo

5, Leak 8 (Sidey 59'), Montgomery 7, Tracey 6.

MELITA EAGLES:
Bracklow 7, Carbon 6, (Olson 73'), McDonald 7, Darvill 6, Mikas 6, Parker 8 (Babian 73'), Morsello 7, Farrugia 8, Allan 7, Stoddard 7, Jones 7.

Arncliffe Scots, the team that barely managed last year to retain its spot in the State League, will have less problems this year. With Alan Ainslie, Paul Luckett, John Lee, Steve Leak, Andy Tracey and Co., one can hardly see the Scots lamenting at the foot of the table.

In fact, if I were to judge their success in 1980 by the showing against Melita Eagles, I'd rate their chances better than even to finish in the top echelon of the State League.

With Luckett and Lee to control midfield, Scots should be able to supply their tall men up front (Leak and Montgomery) and improve their scoring.

Steve Leak must think himself very unlucky not to have picked up a couple of goals in the first half.

Two quick attacks by the Scots, in the 12th and 13th minutes finished with some fine crosses that found Leak in the area with great opportunities to score.

On both occasions, unfortunately for the Arncliffe team, Leak missed an open goal.

However, with 13 minutes of the second half gone, Leak made amends with a fine header, following Andy Tracey's cross.

Melita Eagles, still a fine team and certainly the team to show that certain class of soccer we all love, failed to penetrate Arncliffe's defence, mainly because, in their effort to play the short passing game, they kept going backwards and thus failed to create the opportunities in front of goal.

Not until the Scots went one up did Melita realise that this was not going to be a piece of cake and that they must work harder and go forward more often.

Melita hit top gear in the last 20 minutes, making life miserable for Garry Marsden.

Don Allan had the opportunity to equalise but Marsden made a brave save by diving at the feet of the ex-Olympic forward.

With seven minutes to go, Marsden made another great save by pushing a drive by Jones around the post for a corner.

From the resultant corner, Babian, the late replacement in the Melita team, hit the roof

of the far corner of the net with an accurate drive to make it 1:1.

Terry Jones had a couple of opportunities in the dying minutes of the game but failed to take them and the game ended in a fair 1:1 draw.

NTH. SYDNEY 2
AVALA 1

Stadium: St George
Crowd: 2054
Referee: T. Boskovic 9
Goals: Walker (o.g. 57'), A. Battalico (60'), Mitchell (63')

NORTH SYDNEY: Lilli 8, Walker 6, J. Battalico 6, Miller 7, Matheson 6, Yousef 8, A. Battalico 7, Mitchell 7, Leyden 7, Ruiz 7, Delaney 8.

AVALA: Ahrens 6, Bateman 6, G. S. Dellor 6, Barton 8, Pilovski 6, Lavin 7, Patterson 6 (Griffith 62' - 7), Rnjak 6, Tilt 5, Kodor 5, Karanfilovski 8.

North Sydney Inter showed much more cohesion than its opponents to finish a deserved winner of the first Ampol Cup encounter of the 1980 season.

It was a slow game with little to enthuse about.

Inter had some good opportunities in the first half but Leyden managed to miss on a couple of chances and Yousef did the same.

Avala, with the exception of Karanfilovski, did not have a player to make a lot of ground up front or create a decent scoring opportunity. In fact, Avala had only three shots at goal in the first half, two of which were by Karanfilovski. All three were brilliantly saved by Lilli.

In the second half the pattern of the game remained the same. North Sydney showed more enterprise and looked far more dangerous. In the 55th minute Yousef, certainly the best player in his side, managed to send another header inches wide of Ahrens' net.

A couple of minutes later, it was the unfortunate Walker who beat his own keeper to give Avala the lead.

North Sydney came forward looking for the equaliser and in a space of three minutes managed to ram home two fine goals by Alex Battalico and B. Mitchell to go ahead 2-1.

Leyden could have made it 3:1 in the dying minutes of the game, but yet again failed to find his scoring touch.

Avala missed Williams and Durisic in midfield and the sooner these two fine players come back, the better for Avala. North Sydney Inter had their best in Delaney and Yousef while Lilli in goal showed a safe pair of hands.

• The opinion expressed by our columnists are not necessarily those of this paper.



SOCCER ACTION is published every Wednesday by Newspress, Pty Ltd, a Division of Age Publications, 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000. P.O. Box 628E, Melbourne 3001. Distributed in Victoria and Broken Hill by Megdale Pty Ltd, 250 Spencer St., Melbourne 3000; in NSW by Allan Rodney Wright (Circulation) Pty Ltd, 36-40 Bourke St., Woolloomooloo 2001; in S.A. by B. G. & K. L. Fuller, 105 Main St., Beverley 5008; in Tasmania by The Mercury, 93 Macquarie St., Hobart 7000; and in Queensland by Mirror News papers Ltd., 367 Brunswick St., Brisbane 4006.

EDITOR: Laurie Schwab.
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ADVERTISING MANAGER: Bill Vojtek.
SYDNEY MANAGER: Con Shanahan, David Syme & Co. Ltd., FCA House, 50 Margaret St., Sydney. Phone 29 3788.
PRODUCTION MANAGER: Andrew Berry.
Address all correspondence to Soccer Action, 250 Spencer St., Melbourne, 3000.
Printed by Waverley Offset Publishing Group, 55A 2444

CHARLTON FOR TASMANIA

The 21-year-old son of 1966 England World Cup hero Jack Charlton flew from London to Tasmania on Monday for a two-year contract with Caledonians of Hobart.

John Charlton has been playing with the English non-league club Guisborough.

"I did not try to make the grade at professional level because I knew I would always be compared with by dad," John said.

Giampaolo—Valeri—Brennan?

By BRUCE WADDELL

Brisbane Lions have sold their leading goalscorer of last season, centre forward Tony Brennan, to Canberra City, for \$15,000.

The deal also involves the permanent transfer of Canberra utility player Stephen Hogg, who initially had been obtained on loan for one season.

Bearing in mind Hogg's value as a youth international, the transaction is worth more than \$20,000 to Brisbane Lions. Since making his debut in the Brisbane First Division a few seasons back, Brennan consistently has been one of Queensland's best known personalities.

He is a protégé of Lions' coach Matt Carson, who took Brennan with him into PSL midway through last season when he switched from State League Club Southside Eagles.

Brennan soon made an impact in the League and was selected in the Australian squad by Russ Gutterford to play against Partizan Belgrade in Newcastle.

Brennan and his Lions teammate Nigel Lownds subsequently were sent home for allegedly disobeying a curfew order.

Brennan toured Italy successfully in the off season with Ray Richards' all star team.

He has made it known for some time that he wanted to leave Brisbane this year, chiefly for personal reasons.

Rale Rasic came to Brisbane late last year in an attempt to sign Brennan, who eventually rejected the higher cash offer from Adelaide City.

He preferred to go to Canberra and has secured a transfer in his job as a bank officer.

Meanwhile, Canberra coach Vic Fernandez remains confident of signing Walter Valeri and Sebastian Giampaolo of Inter Monaro.

This would give him a forward line of Giampaolo — Brennan — Valeri, with Terry Byrne, also a goalscorer, playing from behind.

Inter Monaro valued Valeri and Giampaolo at a total of \$52,000 but after an appeal by the players, the price was lowered to \$44,000.

But Fernandez hopes the price will come down to about \$30,000 after talks between the ASF, the NSW Federation and Inter Monaro.

New Zealand International Richard Wilson and Duncan Cole are still the subject of a dispute with the NZ Federation, which wants Canberra to lodge a \$10,000 bond for each of them, guaranteeing that they will be released for New Zealand's World Cup matches.

Wilson's solicitor has advised that the NZ Federation's demand would not hold up in court. Canberra has advised the NZ Federation that it will release the two players for international duty and that it even will give them special incentives to be included in their national team.

Canberra beat Rapid West Point 5:2 in Hobart at the weekend, with goals by Brennan (2), Phil Reiss, Isaac Farrell and Valeri.

The result follows Canberra's 4:1 victory over 1979 ACT champion Croatia Deakin. Scorers in that game were Byrne, Giampaolo, John O'Shea and Don McLaren.

In other Brisbane Lions news, it was announced that Socorro defender Col Bennett had agreed to terms for the new season.

It means Lions virtually will be able to field an unchanged defence, including goalkeeper Nigel Lownds, Bennett, Jim Hermiston and left back Alan

The right back spot appears to be between Paul Ontong, the former striker who excelled in defence last year, and Steve Hogg, although Carson may want the youngster to play in midfield.

Lions also have secured another Southside Eagles player from the State League, midfielder Gerry Lindsay, and Irishman who is highly rated by Carson.

The two New Zealanders International's midfielder Johan Vereij and centre forward Mark McNaughton, have settled in well.

The latter is expected to partner Alan Hughes up front, if the Scot decided to come to terms with the club.

Lions may also have to find room for three youngsters they sent to train with champion Dutch club Feyenoord in the off season — Graham Wilson, Tom McGregor and Craig Low.

Another youngster with big potential is midfielder Clark Anderson, who coach Bill Curran rated as one of his best players in the Lions City tournament in Singapore.

NEWCASTLE v CANBERRA

Canberra City and Newcastle KB United will clash in the first leg of the 1980 Prime Minister's Cup at the International Sports Centre, Newcastle, on Sunday.

The second leg will be played in Canberra at the end of the season.

The Cup is contested by the two clubs every year.

Croatia's big buy

Essendon Croatia is reported to have paid a deposit on a \$130,000 piece of land at Chelsea (Vic).

The 45-acre site is likely to be developed as Croatia's headquarters, featuring a ground and social club.

However, Essendon manager Frank Burin would not deny or confirm that the deposit had been paid.

The site at Chelsea is swamp land, and would need a lot of work if it were to be developed into a soccer ground.

In other news, Croatia has Frankston's team by the start of the State League championship on April 6.

Frankston has a scout in England looking for two more players — a midfielder and a forward — to be imported this season.

The Bayside club hopes to sign Billy Buchanan of Dandenong City and Nick Lowe of

Frankston City's (Vic) star recruit Jimmy Dunne will not arrive in Australia for at least three weeks due to an immigration Department delay in issuing a visa.

Dunne, an Elre international defender, should be in Frankston's team by the start of the State League championship on April 6.

Frankston has a scout in England looking for two more players — a midfielder and a forward — to be imported this season.

The Bayside club hopes to sign Billy Buchanan of Dandenong City and Nick Lowe of

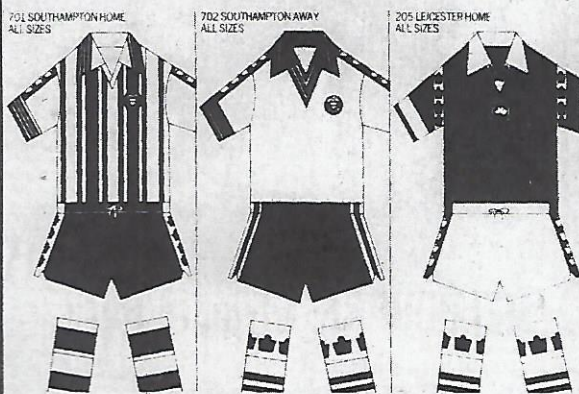
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Superstars rescue Czechs from KB blitz

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 5 (Kroupa 35th, Dobias pen 47th, Nehoda 69th, Masny (2) 80th, 90th) **NORTH-EAST NSW 3** (Jones (2) 15th, 28th Senkalski 40th) at the International Sports Centre, Newcastle. Crowd: 6200.

Joe Lanzoni



CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Hruska 7 injured (Netolicka 61st min) - Dobias 9, Jurkemik 7 (Panenska 8, half time), Vojacek 7, Fiala 8 - Stambach 6 (Vizek 8, half time), Kozak 6 (Nehoda 9, half time) - Kroupa 8, Masny 8, Gajdusek 7.

NORTH-EAST NSW: Dando 8 - Reaney 8, Summerscales 8, Curran 8 - Bertogna 7, Senkalski 7, Tredinnick 9 - Hays 8, Trenter 8 injured (McClelland 46th min), Jones 9. Referee: Peter Ramplay. Cautions: Trenter (NSW).

Newcastle KB Ltd, which doubles as the Northern NSW representative team, almost caused the upset of the decade when it stretched European champion Czechoslovakia to the limit, before going down 5-3.

The courageous Newcastle team led 3-1 at half time, and held the Czechs at 3-3 with 10 minutes to go in the match.

It was during the last 10 minutes that Czech superstar Marian Masny cut loose and scored two goals to save the Czechs from an embarrassing result.

But by that time the gallant Newcastle side had already won the hearts of every person in attendance with their display of determination and one must not leave out skill, an adjective that is not always synonymous with Australian soccer.

Nobody in their wildest dreams would have predicted KB to pierce the Europeans Champions defence three times in the first 45 minutes; a feat that Hotland, West Germany and Greece (other members of Group A in the coming European

championships with Italy in June) will find difficult to emulate.

A great deal of the credit must go to Alan Vest and his assistant Frank Campbell who after watching the Czechs give Australia a drubbing in Canberra, had the courage to abandon the expected tactics of containment, instead encouraged the team to play its own brand of aggressive, enterprising soccer, which turned the game into a memorable spectacle.

After the first 10 minutes in which the Czechs dominated, Newcastle gradually found its feet and in the 15th minute from a free kick by Arno Berogna from almost the centre field, Bill Summerscales was able to outjump the tall defence and not the ball to the path of the oncoming David Jones. His left foot shot gave Hruska no chance.

The Czechs were quick to react and in the 25th minute a shot by midfielder Stambach was brilliantly headed off the line by Paul Reaney, the ex-Leeds United and England full back who was making his debut in Australia.

Spurred on by Reaney's effort, the locals went further ahead one minute later, once again from a dead ball situation (take a bow Alan Vest).

From a corner taken by Tredinnick on the right, Mark Trenter on the near post nodded the ball on and David Jones was at the far post to head it home.

Czechoslovakia pulled one back in the 35th minute when Kroupa pounced on a rebound to beat the helpless Phil Dando.

But the locals were not done yet, and with five minutes to go before half time, they sent the crowd into hysteria when they scored the best goal of the match.

A 40-metre pass over the Czech's defence by Col Curran sent Peter Tredinnick away on the left and his cross almost from the corner flag found the oncoming Joe Senkalski.

Senkalski's volley on the run found the net for a goal that would have done any national team proud.

With defeat staring Czechoslovakia in the face coach Joe Vengios replaced Jurek with Panenska in the centre back position, and Stambach and Kozak from

the midfield to make room for Vizek and superstar Nehoda. At that stage, with the edge taken off the local side, the visitors started to dictate the terms.

With Nehoda probing and grafting in the midfield, Masny and Kroupa found a lot more space up front, and in the 47th minute, Masny was brought down by Ray Drinkwater and the penalty was converted by captain Dobias.

In the 89th minute it was Nehoda who brought the teams on level terms by beating three defenders in the space of four metres before stroking home the equaliser.

In this period Czechoslovakia played immaculate possession football, only releasing the ball when the chances of losing possession were minimal.

Nevertheless, the locals had a chance to equalise with four minutes to go when Malcolm McClelland, who had replaced the injured Mark Trenter, outsped the defence to cut back a gem of a ball, but the oncoming David Jones left foot shot was brilliantly saved by Netolicka, who had replaced the injured Hruska in the 61st minute after a collision with Jones.

It would be totally unfair to single out players after such a game of determined effort but one can not overlook the performance of Tredinnick, Curran and the steady influence of Paul Reaney to our already experienced defence.

And if this performance is any criteria Newcastle can prepare itself for next attendance records during the coming season.

In Newcastle, we had Alan Vest and his merry men 3-1 at half time. Irrespective of the final score, Newcastle scored three fine goals through some good wholesome attacking soccer and it is a credit to Mr. Vest.

However, in Canberra and in Sydney Australia produced the "best" selection and received the spanking of its lives! I thought that the days when Australia lost by basketball scores disappeared with the sixties.

Hallelujah, welcome the eighties. With all due respect to the National Coach Mr. Gutendorf I would like to ask just one question - What made you think that one of the best strikers in the country, Gary Cole, is a midfielder?

It was almost pathetic to see this tall striker fumble and bumble, looking for open spaces in midfield and almost regularly lose possession. That was the most significant part of our inability to control the midfield at any time in the first half. Cole does not have the ability of Boyle, Coyne, Stone, Campbell or Byrne to hold possession then distribute with those deft defence splitting passes and that was one department that our Mr Cole is terribly wasted.

The job of a midfielder is not only to prepare an attack but sometimes to hold the ball and give its player a "breather", so much the part of tactical play. Unfortunately we had no such player on display in this game and that is why our defence crumbled in the end. The constant pressure exerted upon our defenders was just too much to bear.

Outstanding players: Perry, Prskalo, Henderson, Rooney, Sharpe and Krncevic.

WHAT HAPPENED TO ATTACKING POLIC?

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 5 (Masny (2) 46th, 65th, Gajdusek 58th, Kroupa 84th, Kozak 89th) **AUSTRALIA 0** at Sydney Sports Ground. Crowd: 14,368.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Netolicka 8 - Barmos 7, Ondrus 7, Stambach 8, (Vojacek 70th), Gogh 7 - Jurkemik 7, (Elna 66th), Kozak 9, Panenska 8 - Vizek 7 (Masny 8 - 45th) (Kroupa 85th) Nehoda 8, Gajdusek 8.

AUSTRALIA: Woodhouse 7 - Perry 7, Henderson 7 (Christopoulos 79th), Prskalo 7, Tansey 5 - Rooney 7 (Campbell 86th), Cole 5 (Nykolov 6 58th) Bertogna 7 - Cumming 5 (O'Connor 70th), Krncevic 7, Sharpe 7. Referee: Tony Boskovic.

The Socceroos - comprehensively thrashed 5-0 in Sydney last Sunday can expect no respite from the Czechoslovakian onslaught in Melbourne this Saturday night.

The Czech's mastermind Josef Vengios says more punishment is on the way.

"Our team is progressing well, but is far from its top form," said Vengios after the Sydney match. "At the moment, we are playing at about 75% of our best form."

Admittedly Australia held the Czechs in the first half and one might think that our defeat was due to fatigue. That is the excuse given by Rudi Gut-

Alex Vesic



endorf, our national coach, but I can't swallow it and I am sure that all of those 14,000 odd spectators will agree with me. The Reds are in a different class of football to that of the magnificent team from Czechoslovakia.

From the very start we took position in the trenches between the centre line with Woodhouse defending very often with all 11 players in close attendance. So much for the attacking policy we were going to employ!

It was obvious that our players were given strict instructions to follow designated opponents around the ground. Despite this effort, Australia failed to stop the visitors in their drive towards Woodhouse.

Woodhouse kept the scoreline blank with two great saves in the first half. A drive by Stambach in the 12th minute sailed for the top right hand corner of the net, but Woodhouse sprung into action with a cat-like leap to finger tip the ball over the bar for a corner.

Ten minutes later, Steve Perry brought down Zdenek Nehoda to give away a free kick 25 metres from goal. Antonin Penenka unleashed a powerful shot, that brought out the best from Woodhouse.

Midway through the first half, Australia manager, Alex Vesic, broke out of our defensive shell and attack through our two speedsters, Sharpe and Krncevic. However, our attack was too thin and our aim has rested on some support from Cumming and midfielder Gary Cole.

But it was Australia which should have scored in the 32nd minute against the run of play. Cumming crossed from the left, Krncevic led the ball through and Henderson faced Netolicka in what seemed a certain goal.

Henderson's shot, however, was not on target and Jaroslav Netolicka was in no better.

The difference between the two teams became more apparent in the second half. Almost from the restart, Jan Kozak took the ball down the left flank, raced past a defender before crossing for Marian Masny to squeeze one between Woodhouse and the near post.

It was a well taken goal, but to my amazement, all our players were sitting at the far post waiting for the "usual" far post cross and subsequently had no chance of reaching or stopping Masny.

The Czechoslovakian team continued to press forward and it was only a matter of time before another goal was scored. In the 58th minute Woodhouse was beaten again. A half clearance from the Australian penalty area was picked up by Zdenek Nehoda some 20 metres away. He found Woodhouse out of posi-

tion and lobbed the keeper, aiming for the top left hand corner. Fortunately, the ball hit the cross bar and bounced away, but only for Miroslav Gajdusek to ram it back into the net past the outstretched arms of Woodhouse.

Seven minutes later our players and spectators alike should have learned a valuable lesson. We lost the ball and got punished most severely. Jim Tansey toyed with the ball some 35 metres from goal and lost it to Marian Masny. Before Tansey could challenge back, Masny pushed the ball wide for Jan Kozak then ran into the area past Prskalo to accept a return before slamming it past Woodhouse.

Simple and with no frills. You make a mistake, we punish you for it, was the clear message!

With some seven minutes to go, our players were under pressure yet again. Jan Kozak crossed, but all seemed well with Tansey covering the cross. Alas, our Jimmy managed to put his knee to the ball and it bounced high and straight to the head of Nehoda, who quickly headed over Tansey to Kroupa some six metres from the line. Kroupa, who was on the pitch no more than 10 seconds hardly had time to say thank you before pushing it wide of Woodhouse to make it 4-0.

With one minute of play remaining, the rampaging visitors scored after a solo effort by Jan Kozak to complete a very unhappy eighth day for Australian soccer. I've said it before and I am sure that most fans will agree that the Czechs are a great team, and possibly three to four goals better than Australia any day. But what is mine is the way we played them.

Play weaker teams: coach

The Australian Soccer Federation should pick easier opponents for the Socceroos, top coach Les Scheinflug said this week. Scheinflug who won the 1979 Coach of the Year award after leading Marconi to the Phillips League championship, was commenting on Australia's performances against Czechoslovakia.

"We succeeded in attracting new people to soccer through the promotion given to the Czechs tour, but it is the nature of Australia to demand victory from their home team," said Scheinflug, a former Socceroo captain.

"If they are not given victories, they lose interest."

"Therefore the ASF must pick up opponents more carefully. If we are to have tours off-season, let them be by club teams against which we have a chance of winning. The toughest games should be scheduled later in the season, when our players are better prepared, but even then, the touring teams should not be so strong that they completely outclass us."

"It is bad for our image. We do not pretend to be as good as the full-time professionals of Czechoslovakia, England or Yugoslavia, so we must guard against such expectations being introduced to the public."

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Waste of time!

By LEIF JENSEN

I had promised myself that I would make no comments on the Socceroos this time. But when Australia soccer slowly but surely becomes a laughing stock, then it must be of concern to everyone who works for or supports soccer in this country.

You may remember that I severely criticised the ASF when they appointed Jim Shoulder as our national coach.

I pointed out at the time that we already had several good coaches in Australia who had more experience than Jim. Unfortunately, my prediction that we would NOT make it to the World Cup, turned out to be correct. However, this would not have been so bad if the ASF had learned something.

I must admit that they did not appoint a coach who had never coached a team before. Just the opposite, as Mr Gutendorf surely would qualify as manager for a travel agency. He certainly has been everywhere except perhaps with the Vienna Boys Choir.

However, the important thing is that, as far as I can see, we are not any closer to having a world-class national team now than we were 12 months ago.

Forget about the tour of China, because for a lot less money, those type of games could have been arranged here in Australia. Why not play all our State teams for a start? I am sure that Len McKendry would accept such a game, and what's more, my money would be on Victoria to win.

So, what made me change my mind about making any comments on the Socceroos? I will tell you, a statement from Gutendorf recently to the Press that his players were not fit to play against Czechoslovakia and that the game should never have been set for so early in the season, left me puzzled because I remember reading in "Soccer Action" on July 11, 1979, that Czechoslovakia would visit Australia for four games against the Socceroos in January-February, 1980.

And in the same issue of "Soccer Action", Mr Gutendorf's comments about his players were: "Some are overweight and not well trained yet, BUT I CAN POLISH THEM UP."

So, if after six months the players are still FAT and not FIT, and the game should never have been arranged for so early in the season, WHO IS TO BLAME FOR THAT?

Two questions were asked last year in "Soccer Action". One was "Is Australia wasting its time trying to qualify for the 1982 World Cup finals?" and the other one was "Are we throwing money away on a lost cause?"

My answer to these questions is... YES WE ARE! What is your answer? You can write your answers to L. G. JENSEN, 13 Magit Ave, Mulgrave, 3170.

Czechs trained after game

from page one

If not, the Czechs will again overrun us, as they did in Canberra and Sydney.

Their second-half display in Sydney was out of this world. The five goals were well executed and the general teamwork was flawless.

Coach Joe Vengios complained afterwards that his men had been too ruthless enough in the first half, so he will demand total commitment from the kick-off in Melbourne.

It's no good hearing criticism about the Socceroos. They're doing their best.

The national team is merely symptomatic of what's happening in soccer in this country. We're much too far behind the leading nations.

Believe it or not, seven of the Czechs - the substitutes and those who had been replaced - were out training for an hour after the match. Enough said!

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Wright, Evans shine

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (Evans 37th, Lutton 65th) **WESTERN SUBURBS 0** at Middle Park, Sunday. Crowd about 2200.

HELLAS: Laumets 6 - (Taigeris 6, half time) V. Bannan 8, Kyriakoulas 6, Xanthopoulos 6, Kalafetidis 6 - Rogers 6, Wright 9 - Kakantonis 6, Evans 8.5, Buljevic (injured, sub Lutton 8, 24th), Ristovski 5.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Mitandis 7 - Jim Daperis 7 (Greechan 55th) Glykokalamos 8, Jaworski 8, McCarthy 6, Czapnik 6.5 - Kyprididis 6, T. Patsakos 5, N. Christodoulas 6.

Referee: Slasta 7.

After losing Branko Buljevic early due to injury, Hellas went on to play its worst game yet, relying on Alan Evans and Sammy Wright to win it virtually on their own.

Remaining true to his promise, coach John Margaritis continued to give all members of his large squad the chance to prove themselves.

This time he included centre back Kiri Kyriakoulas, forward Mendo Ristovski and goalkeeper Lou Tsigris for one half.

And after all the experimentation, the stopper's position probably is the only one over which Margaritis remains undecided. The candidates are Steve Blair, Arthur Xanthopoulos and Chris Kalafetidis.

The other positions have been earned so far by Peter Laumets, Vince Bannan, Frank Munro, Alan Davidson, Sammy Wright, Alan Evans, Billy Rogers, George Campbell, Bertie Lutton and Branko Buljevic.

Steve Kakantonis and Mendo Ristovski failed against Western Suburbs but they may grab their chance more firmly if they are given a run during the finals.

That leaves George Christopoulos. He was in line for a game last Sunday but was called to Sydney to join the Australian team for its game against Czechoslovakia.

Christopoulos is good enough to play for Victoria and be included in the Soccerro

squad but Margaritis is finding it hard to find a place for him at Hellas.

Western Suburbs performed better than anyone had expected against Hellas. John Daperis, playing against his old club, did some sterling midfield work and Marian Joworski and Mike Glykokalamos defended stoutly but West has no forward to speak of.

In fact, coach Jim Pyrgolios was so desperate he used right back Jim Kyprididis on the wing. Tom Patsakos, the big central striker, didn't do any work, and Nif Christodoulas, who was tried out on the other wing, was rarely seen.

With virtually no opposition, the Hellas back four had their easiest game of the series, yet only Vince Bannan made the most of it by diverting his energy to attacking runs.

Buljevic was hurt while going up to head a cross from Bannan. He went off with a black eye but will be OK for the semi-final against Croatia on Saturday week.

The goals: 37th minute Wright intercepts pass by McCarthy, deflecting it to Evans who slips it neatly under Mitandis. 65th Ristovski delays slips it to Bannan and his cross is cut back by Evans to Lutton who rams it in. — LAURIE SCHWAB.



VICTORIAN AMPOL CUP

Victorian Ampol Cup standings at the end of the preliminary rounds:

SECTION A				
	W	L	F	A
HEIDELBERG	3	0	7	1
Ajax	2	1	4	4
Frankston	1	2	2	2
Altona	0	3	3	7

SECTION B				
	W	L	F	A
J.U.S.T.	3	0	7	2
Makedonia	2	1	10	3
George Cross	1	2	2	2
Slavia	0	3	0	5

SECTION C				
	W	L	F	A
HELLAS	3	0	8	0
Hakoah	2	1	3	4
Croydon	1	2	3	2
W. Suburbs	0	3	3	7

SECTION D				
	W	L	F	A
CROATIA	3	0	8	1
Juventus	1	2	2	4
Albion R.	1	2	3	6
Sunshine	1	2	2	6

Top scorers:
 5. Ward (Mak)
 4. Evans (Hellas).
 3. Paton, (H'berg), Mitten (Croatia).
 2. Lujic, Vasic (J.U.S.T.), C. Nabet (Albion), Blair (Hakoah), Loughnane (Croy), Kokaka, Batiniovic (Croatia), Culien (Mak), Whyte (Altona), Selemidis (H'berg).

Exodus continues

SUNSHINE CITY 1 (K. Coyle 37th) **JUVENTUS 1** (Gillan 50th) after extra time at Olympic Park. Sunshine won 3-1 on penalties. Crowd: 1900 (double header), Sunday.

SUNSHINE: Wood 6 - Sealest 5, Ellis 8.5, Cairnduff 5.5, B. Coyle 8 - Esposto 5, R. Nelson 8 (N. Coyle 63rd min), Laing 6-5 - McNally 7, Scerri 7, K. Coyle 6 (Gilmour 70th min).

JUVENTUS: Hawke 7 - Curcio 7.5, Vaughan 7.5, Della Rocca 7, Lia 6 - Barbia 6, Tarquinio 6 injured (Baravelli 7, 36th min) - Heery 6, Incantalupo 7, Gillan 6.5

Referee: Jack Readshaw 6.

Cautions: Tarquinio, Barbia (J).

Penalty scorers: McNally, Gilmour, Esposto (S), Heery (J).

Sunshine City, which has used 21 players in three Ampol Cup matches, was given a

glimmer of hope last Sunday with a victory over Juventus.

Sure, Sunshine won only after a sudden-death penalty shootout, and Juventus didn't have a full-strength team, but the signs were there.

The team showed great improvement from its previous two games, mainly due to youngsters finding their feet and settling in the senior team.

Defenders Brian Coyle and Ricky Sealest were impressive, and forwards John McNally and Steve Scerri weren't too over-saw by the Juventus defence.

Promising signs, but still the ominous dark clouds haven't cleared from over Sunshine's head.

Three key senior players - Hugh Howe, Nick Lowe and Peter Clark - are reported to be unsettled and wanting transfers.

The players leaving shouldn't affect a team too drastically, but in Sunshine's case it's the continuation of a slow, but steady exodus.

Last season, Ray Pocock, Nick Cook and Terry Banagan left Sunshine, and the season before Peter Lewis, Ian McCarthy and Tommy Cumming departed the scene.

There has been a steady exodus of players, but no apparent influx to replace these men.

Sunshine has indicated it is no longer interested in dipping into the transfer market every season; a wise policy too.

So the club will bank in its juniors meeting the challenges of the State League. Coach Ian Peterick is a great believer in juniors and will have to mould youth players around the basis of his team - Mike Dixey, Steve Ellis, Rob Nelson, Dave Nelson and Stuart Gilmour.

But in the meantime, the sceptics will continue to tip Sunshine for the drop in the Metropolitan League.

Juventus is shaping up well for the season. It already has a good team, with the prospect of a couple of players being added.

Bobby McGuinness is the key to Juve's success, but he's overseas for another month yet. Providing McGuinness stays fit and in top shape, Juventus will be no pushover. — KYLE PATTERSON

Team of week

O'HARA (Hakoah)				
HAZABENT (J.U.S.T.)	ELLIS (Sunshine)	GLYKOKALAMOS (West Suba)	MC MILLAN (H'berg)	
SELEMID (H'berg)	WRIGHT (Hellas)	MURPHY (Croydon)		
CULINA (Croatia)	EVANS (Hellas)	WARD (Makedonia)		

Azzopardi coach

Eddie Azzopardi, the great former George Cross and Alexander goalkeeper, has been appointed specialist coach of Preston Makedonia.

Azzopardi will give expert coaching to goalkeepers Lou Kaster and Gary Clayton, and will also coach the Preston Reserve team.

It was a youthful Kaster who was understudy to Azzopardi at George Cross in the early 1960s. Kaster took over in goal when Azzopardi transferred to Alexander, and was with George Cross for a total of 17 years before transferring to Kellor Austria and then to Preston Makedonia.

Azzopardi has been coaching juniors.

FRANKSTON CITY 2 (Bannon pen 6th, Rowe 56th) **Altona City 1** (Whyte 65th) at B. T. Connor Reserve. Crowd: 1400 (double header) Saturday.

FRANKSTON: Burgess 6.5 - Taylor 7, Adams 7, Cooper 7, Blacklaw 7 - Vaili 8, Bannan 8.5, Mordnovic 5 (Laenstra 41st min) - Campbell 6, Wall 7, Runje 5 (Rowe 49th min).

ALTONA: Massoni 6 - Kilpatrick 6, Wilson 5, Gramsbergen 5, J. Little 7 - Bartolo 5.5 (Murphy 6, half time), Watters 6, Deluca 6, Hammill 5 (Oliva 52nd) - Innes 5, Whyte 7.

Referee: Sam Zoumas 6.

Cautions: Cooper (F).

Altona City and Frankston City - two clubs who worked so hard to cast off their 'unfashionable' image last season - are now at the crossroads.

The question both clubs must ask themselves is do we continue trying to match the big guns when our crowd support indicates it is a financial impossibility.

I think if the clubs are realistic they will abandon any hopeful plans of conquering Makedonia and Croatia in the State League.

Frankston last season did almost that, but now finds itself in financial trouble with the prospect of having to rebuild its team.

The Bayside club finished second in 1979, but has lost five star players, and would have to spend heavily in the transfer market to construct a team comparable in strength to the one of 1979.

Frankston cast off its 'unfashionable' tag last season, and was unlucky not to win at least one trophy. However, to stay at the top requires money - lots of money - which is not in surplus at Frankston.

Altona also spent heavily last season, although not to the same degree as Frankston. The club climbed to 11th in 1978 to sixth in 1979, and was no longer regarded as 'easy meat'.

Come 1980, and Altona has lost four players from its team which performed creditably last season, but was far from being a force.

It Altona was serious about reaching the top, it would have to sink large sums into its team - money again with is not readily available.

No, the future of Altona and Frankston lies in the youngsters they produce.

Last Saturday's Ampol Cup match between the two clubs featured many promising young players.

Altona fielded two 16 year olds - Billy Hammill and Jim Bartolo - plus Brian Kilpatrick, Cos Oliva, Lars Murphy and Sammy Deluca, who are all in their teens.

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WILKINSON UNDER FIRE

PRESTON MADEKONIA 6 (Ward 3, pen. 28th, 33rd, 69th, Cullen 12th, Leashire 61st, Cutajar own goal 56th) **GEORGE CROSS 1** (Barron pen 38th) at B.T. Connor Reserve. Crowd 1400 (double header), Saturday.

MAKEDONIA: Kastner 6 - Petrovski 7, Higham 6, Flavio 6, Beech 7 - Faulkner 7, Lucchesi 7, Cunningham 5 (Leashire 46th min) - Cullen 8, McMillan 8.5, Ward 8.

GEORGE CROSS: Agius 6 - Cutajar 4, Maitland 5, Castiello 4 (Hooper 5, half time), Barron 6 - Wilson 5, Wilkinson 4, Bernard 6, Mirak 5 (Pappas 6, half time) - Mizzel 5, Morgan 5. **Referee:** Nick Karlich 7.

The season is just three weeks old and already there are rumblings of discontent at George Cross.

It's the fans who are angry, and player/coach Billy Wilkinson is the target of the supporters' jibes and cat-calls.

Wilkinson was not a popular figure as George Cross crashed 6-1 to Preston Macedonia last Saturday, the heaviest defeat inflicted in the Ampol Cup this season.

Wilkinson was in the sorry plight of being the coach of the humbled team, as well as being one of the humiliated players.

The difficult problem facing playing coaches is to justify their place in the team. Obviously, a group of George Cross fans don't think Wilkinson justifies a place at present.

The group was angry when Wilkinson substituted Robert Mirak at half time, instead of taking himself off.

The anger grew as the Cross slowly slipped from the mediocre to pathetic in the second half, allowing Preston to have a field day.

However, the George fans are being a trifle harsh on their team's coach.

Firstly, Wilkinson selected an experimental team, leaving out key players Tony Cowan, Jim Pappas and Gary Hooper. The experiment failed, but there was nothing at stake for George Cross anyway.

Secondly, Wilkinson has had only three competitive games in which to mould his team, and his long term plans are still in their infancy.

Thirdly, Wilkinson obviously thinks he will be more effective as a coach if in the fray with his players.

George Cross has the players to form a good State League team. However, if the fans advocate changes this early in the season, they could be in for another frustrating year.

The Cross needs stability if the club is to once again challenge for honors.

Preston Macedonia could bear the fruits of 1979's team building this season. For the first time since the club has been in the State League, the playing staff hasn't been chopped and changed during the close season.

Preston has an excellent forward line (Cullen, McMillan, Ward), and excellent midfield players, although they rarely work well as a unit.

KYLE PATTERSON

Hazabent stars

FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. 2 (Kondarios 40th, Ollerton penalty 60th) **SLAVIA 0** at Olympic Park, Saturday night, crowd about 1800.

J.U.S.T.: Boland 7 - Hazabent 8, O'Reilly 7, Kondarios 7.5, Jovicic 6 (Karic 68th) - Jovanovic 5, Ollerton 7.5, Iloski 5, Picciano 6 - Vasic 4 (P. Simic 75th), Lujic 5.5.

SLAVIA: Puzilese 7.5 - N. Haupt 8, Lawson 7.5, Bjelic 6 (Houston 55th), Pye 7 - Whiteside 6, Wade 7, Cullen 6 - Kinneer 6, Griffiths 8, McGorran 7.5.

Referee: Stirling 6.

J.U.S.T. showed improvement in defence, where Igor Hazabent put on a fine performance, but its overall play was still unsatisfactory and Slavia easily could have won had it taken its chances in the first half.

Big striker Dave Griffiths was a constant threat to J.U.S.T. and right back Neville Haupt made a monkey out of Zdravko Lujic who thought perhaps that his reputation would be sufficient and effort unnecessary.

Slavia coach Harry Chalkitis had his team moving

up and down admirably, providing numbers in attack and defence according to need.

J.U.S.T. started with four men in midfield and only two strikers, but when coach Rocco Ilie pushed Peter Ollerton forward after half time, the tables turned.

Ollerton became the focal point of all J.U.S.T. attacks, flicking headers here and there and shooting at every opportunity. So dominant did Ollerton become that his marker, Rajko Bjelic, eventually was replaced by Liam Houston.

Yet J.U.S.T. had to rely on centre back Jim Kondarios for the goal that swung the game. Dave Pye and Elvio Puzilese scrambled desperately to save Kondarios' header but the linesmen rules that the ball had crossed the line.

J.U.S.T. claimed a penalty unsuccessfully when Haupt felled Lujic from behind, but referee Stirling did point the spot in the 80th minute when Houston blocked Rade Jovicic's run into the area.

Ollerton took the kick and scored, leaving Slavia wishing that Griffiths' first-half header had been a little lower instead of hitting the bar, and that Mick McGorran had launched a better shot after going around Kondarios.

LAURIE SCHWAB

COSTLY ERRORS

HAKOAH 1 (French 85th) **CROYDON 0** at Middle Park, Sunday, crowd about 2200.

HAKOAH: O'Hara 8 - Owen 4 (Wilson full time) Gadsby 8, Baker 7.5, Edmondson 7.5, Blair 6, McNeill 6, Gibson 7.5, Rooney 5, French 5.5, Bozinovski 5, Jordanou 4, 51st).

CROYDON: Edwards 7 - Brown 7.5, McKinley 8, McCombe 8, Wyllie 7 - Doornelbe 6 (Page 80th, Pongho 7, Murphy 8 - Loughane 7 (sent off), Forsyth 6, Brogan 7.

Referee: Venios 6.

Bad miskicks by Rob Forsyth and Charlie Murphy in the goals and so it went on!

Croydon should have won this match three times over had they eventually capitulated to a headed goal by Graham French from a cross by substitute Jimmy Wilson five minutes from the end of extra time.

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Poulakakis hopes

Coach Manny Poulakakis was hoping against hope on Monday night that Heidelberg Utd would win a last-minute offer which would keep him with the Philips League club.

If Heidelberg offers Poulakakis a contract similar to the lucrative deal offered by Victorian State League club Juventus, he will continue as coach of Heidelberg.

If the Heidelberg offer is not forthcoming, Poulakakis will join Juventus on a two-year contract reported to be worth \$30,000.

The Poulakakis affair was believed to be finalised last weekend, but Poulakakis said his move to Juventus was not certain.

"I will stay with Heidelberg if offered a similar contract", said Poulakakis. "The Heidelberg committee discussed the matter on Monday night."

However, Poulakakis admitted his move to Juventus was 99% sure.

Poulakakis was unhappy that Heidelberg hadn't given him a contract since he took over the position during the 1979 season.

If Poulakakis moves to Juventus as expected, Heidelberg's new coach will be John Adams, an English F.A. staff coach who came to Australia last season on a lecture tour.

Ironically, it was Poulakakis who arranged the visit by Adams.

Adams is likely to be Heidelberg's promotional officer as well as senior coach. Poulakakis was reluctant to combine both jobs, another reason why he is likely to move to Juventus.

Poulakakis has coached Juventus twice before - in 1968 and in 1975.

'No sweat' for Heidelberg

HEIDELBERG UNITED 3 (Pavlidis 23rd, Selemdis 50th & 65th) **GREEN GULLY AJAX 0** at Olympic Park, Saturday night, crowd about 1800.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 6 (Banovic 8, half time) - Yzendorn 8, Proven 7, Bannan 8, McMillan 8 - Yankos 6, Selemdis 9, Moulis 5 (Kyriakidis 5, half time) - Bozika 6, Paton 5, Pavlidis 6.

AJAX: Denys 6 - Hogben 7, Donaldson 7, Patten 7, Crily 6 - Vojtek 6, Tornar 4, Thomson 4, (J. Banagan 62nd), Vassallo 6 - Segi 5, Bennie 5.

Referee: Dixon 8

Worried that his depleted team would lose to the Cup holder, Heidelberg president Jim Mangopoulos called for a postponement but the VSF turned him down.

Mangopoulos felt it was unfair to expect Heidelberg to play without its Socceros Jimmy Rooney, Jim Tansey, Gary Cole and Jim Campbell.

But as it turned out, Heidelberg was more than good enough to beat Ajax with only half a team.

Theo Selemdis did most of the damage by himself, having a picnic in midfield and scoring two goals.

It was obvious from the first few minutes that Heidelberg's full backs John Yzendorn and Arthur McMillan would dictate the game with their raids on the flanks, yet none of the Ajax midfielders moved to stop them.

Ajax's plan was to defend and counter-attack. It was strange therefore that one of the two strikers was Steve Bennie, not a fast man by any means, and hardly suited to fast counter attacks.

Faster men like Fred Beller and Yuri DeFreitas were on the bench.

But I don't think any permutation would have made any difference. Heidelberg was simply too good.

The goals - 23rd: Pavlidis with a good shot from within the box after a good combination on the left; 50th: Selemdis heads from a Charlie Yankos cross; 65th: Paton tries to dribble past three men who finally beat him and push the ball out into the open where Selemdis slams it high into the top corner. — LAURIE SCHWAB

Beograd leads

Azzurri and Beograd, the two equal favorites for the S.A. Ampol Cup, retained their unbeaten records after two tense games last Friday night.

Azzurri was forced to share the points with Cumberland in a 1-1 draw while Beograd edged out Polonia 2-1.

Cumberland, following its fine 3-0 win over Elizabeth last week, set the pace against Azzurri and was clearly the superior side in the opening half.

However Azzurri muscled its way back into contention mainly due to a splendid effort from former Mooroolbark player and last year's Rothmans Medal winner Wally Bojczuk.

AZZURRI: Boehnke 8, Simeone 7, Michelon 7, Francis 5, Baggio 7, O. Michelon 7, Pellizzari 7, Innace 7, Bojczuk 7, White 7, Santamaria 7.

BEOGRAD: Neubauer 7, Kolm 7, Sim 7, Harwood 7, Urukalo 7, Opacic 6, Evans 8, Douvartidis 7, Aracolina 7, Santrac 7, Pangrazio.

CAMPBELLTOWN: 2 POLONIA 0. Goals - Campbelltown: Chadwick (28 mins, penalty), Berendregt (56 mins).

POLONIA: Jacques 7, Di Bartolo 7, Pettit 7, Kuczmarski 7, Stanczak 7, Larecki 7, Nadojny 7, Typok 7, Koca 7, Kolecki 8, Cedanaro 7.

CAMPBELLTOWN: Scarnella 8, Koczuch 7, Garrafa 7, Russo 7, Maric 7, Chadwick 7, Matriciani 7, Ammirato 7, Haigh 7, Depinto 7, Berendregt 7.

CAMPBELLTOWN 1, VICTORIA 0. Goal - Haigh (35 mins).

CAMPBELLTOWN: Scarnella 8, Koczuch 7, Garrafa 7, Russo 7, Maric 7, Chadwick 7, Matriciani 7, Ammirato 7, Haigh 7, Depinto 7, Berendregt 7.

VICTORIA: Green 7, Gaudi 7, Wazmann 7, Mullens 7, Higgins 7, Mitchell 8, Elliott 6, Mukulic 6, Key 7, Jackson 61 GUT.

ELIZABETH 5, PARA HILLS 1. Goals - Elizabeth: Hughes 4, (2 mins, 6 mins, 18 mins, 38 mins). Henderson (13 mins). Para Hills: Bell (40 mins).

ELIZABETH: R. Delfos 8, Holland 7, Strain 7, L. Delfos 7, Greenhalgh 7, Henderson 8, Lees 9, Boyd 8, Mollart 7, Hughes 10, Buch 7.

PARA HILLS: Pridoux 5, Duncan 6, Weake 6, Burton 6, Vizzari 6, Whitehead 6, Brown 6, Toner 6, Moss 6, Durrant 7, Bell 7.

BEOGRAD 3 (Opacic 2, Santrac) CUMBERLAND 2 (Evans, Maloney).

VICTORIA 2 (Mitchell, Key) ELIZABETH 1 (Hughes).

AZZURRI 4 (Bojczuk 2, Innace, White) CAMPBELLTOWN 2 (Haigh, Chadwick).

POLONIA 3 PARA HILLS 0.

Ampol Cup standing after last Friday's matches:

Team	W	D	L	F	A	P
Beograd	1	0	0	4	0	5
Azzurri	1	0	0	4	0	5
Victoria	2	0	1	5	4	4
Campbelltown	2	0	1	5	4	4
Cumberland	1	1	1	4	3	3
Polonia	1	0	2	10	4	2
Elizabeth	1	0	2	8	5	2
Para Hills	0	0	3	2	17	0

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COUNTER-ATTACK

Roos should use their speed: Cole

Counter-attack — that's the only way the Australian team will penetrate the defence of European champion Czechoslovakia in the current series, according to Socceroo striker Gary Cole.

The Socceroos do not have the ability to attack the Czechs with orchestrated build-ups, said Cole, but their speed in counter-attacks could be successful.

"It's ludicrous to expect the Australian team to go out and attack the Czechs non-stop," said Cole. "We haven't got the players to match them at that sort of game."

Cole, the top Phillips League goalscorer of Heidelberg Utd, made his analysis after the Socceroos' 0-4 defeat in Canberra.

After studying the Czech defence, Cole believes the pace of Phil O'Connor, Peter Sharne and Tommy Cumming could cause considerable headaches for the visitors.

"The Czech defence was showed up to be slow," said Cole. "The likes of O'Connor, Cumming, Sharne and myself can hike a bit, and we can use this to test out the Czech back four."

"The Czechs cover well in defence but quick counter-attacks could catch them out."

Cole said that the Socceroos created three good scoring chances against the Czechs in Canberra and that if one of them had been taken, the Australian soccer public would have viewed the result differently.

The Canberra game shouldn't be considered a disaster," emphasised Cole. "In fact, I think 4-0 flattered the Czechs. Had we scored a goal to make it 1-4, people would think differently."

"When we first came off the pitch, coach Rudi Gutendorf was happy with our performance. Then he and the players were hit with criticism from the media."

Gutendorf had in fact warned the Australian soccer public, via the media, to expect defeats at the hands of the Czechs as he was determined that his team should attack flat-out.

But the defeat was not a debacle in Cole's mind.

"The Czechs didn't make us look silly," he said. "Each goal they scored can be attributed to failure on our behalf."

"Despite a few lapses, the Australians concentrated throughout the 90 minutes. We had the Czechs pushing the ball across the park, instead of knocking it into forward positions."

"Considering our preparation for the match, it was a good result." Cole underlined the Australians' lack of preparation by saying he was probably one of the fitter players in the squad, yet had been back from his holidays only three weeks.

By KYLE PATTERSON

"Two of the boys who took the field against the Czechs — Jim Tansey and John Coyne — had been back from holiday only one week," said Cole. "The Australian squad was made up of 17 unfit individuals, playing out of season."

Back on the topic of concentration by the players during games, Cole said the national side was showing the influence of the Victorian State team.

"The Victorian team concentrates for the full 90 minutes now," said Cole. "Whereas early last season we didn't. The game against Norwich City last May showed this, as we led 2-0 but conceded four goals near the end."

In comparison, the game against Red Star last month showed the Victorian team concentrating for the full game. Because of this concentration, we were able to beat Red Star, even though many players had just returned from holidays."

Four Victorian players — Cole, Cumming, Tansey and Jimmy Rooney — were in the starting Australian line-up against the Czechs in Canberra.

Cole was used as a midfielder, a position strange to him.

"It was difficult to adapt to the midfield," said Cole.

"It took me about 35 minutes to learn how to regain my breath and recuperate from a period of hard work."

"After about 30 minutes I was shattered but then I discovered how to 'rest' in the midfield. I was sent out as an attacking midfielder but it was difficult bursting into attack and then having to chase back into defence."

Cole at present is No. 2 centre forward in the national squad behind Marconi's Eddie Krncevic, Cole, however, doesn't begrudge Krncevic his place.

"At the moment, Eddie is in fantastic form," praised Cole. "His finishing is unbelievable. In China and at the recent training camp he was scoring goals from all angles and all distances."

"That's why he's playing and that's the way it should be. Clubs pay millions of dollars for forwards who score goals because it takes a special knack to knock the ball into the net."

Cole admitted his finishing was not up to the standard Krncevic was currently setting.

"But if Eddie loses his touch I will get a chance. Then it will be up to me to make the most of the opportunity," Cole said.

Still, Cole is no hack when it comes to scoring goals. He has scored 42 in the three seasons of the PSL to be the competition's leading marksman.

His scoring feats have brought international recognition in the form of offers from Greek First Division clubs.

AEK Athens and PAOK Salonica are believed to have contacted Heidelberg Utd about the possibility of a transfer.



Gary Cole streaks away from AEK Athens defender Lakis Nicolaou before scoring one of his three goals for Victoria against the Greek tourists last year. AEK since has shown interest in signing him.

Cole, however, hasn't heard from the Greek clubs and has heard only whispers and rumours from Heidelberg.

Cole, who seems slightly tired of all the talk, said: "Nothing's concrete, so there's little point worrying about it. Last season there was the big new of Bobby Russell joining the New York Cosmos, but nothing happened."

The blonde striker showed he was being realistic about the transfer talk when he said: "I haven't got my heart set on a villa overlooking the Greek Islands."

But when pressed, Cole admits he would be interested in a transfer if it brought great financial rewards.

"Any professional must consider an offer," said Cole "and I would be a fool to turn down an offer of thousands of dollars. A person is young only once and must make the most of a lifetime."

"But it would take a fantastic offer to make me leave Australia. I have a job here with the Education Department and an ambition to play in the World Cup finals with Australia," said Cole.

"However, if I went to a foreign club, I would make sure my contract stipulated that I would be released for Australian national team games."

However, it is unlikely Cole would remain in the plans of Rudi Gutendorf if he transferred to Greece. With

many games and training camps scheduled, it would be impossible for Cole to travel to and fro.

In the event of one of the Greek clubs making an offer to Cole, I think he would choose to stay and play for Australia.

Meanwhile, Cole has revealed that Australian soccer Federation president Sir Arthur George soon will have discussions with the Victorian Education Department regarding his position.

As the World Cup preliminary matches draw closer, Cole will be requiring more leave from his teaching duties.

His soccer commitments often will clash with his employment as a teacher.

Cole obviously has no desire to quit his job with the Education Department and wouldn't consider cutting back the time he devotes to soccer.

"There is a glut of teachers at present," said Cole, "and if I were to resign I wouldn't get my job back. The Education Department may even take a dim view of the situation regarding my time off."

The result of Sir Arthur's discussions with the Education Department will be interesting. If soccer is treated as a second-rate sport by the State Government, as it has been in the past, Cole may have a fight on his hands.

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EUROPE'S LARGEST

WILLIAMS WANTS HIS PLACE BACK

'Bullet', once the fastest full back in Australia, is now a forgotten man.

In two short years he has faded into obscurity after having been a sensation in an otherwise dull and colorless Soccerroo combination.

The leg injuries that threatened his career and prevented him from playing with club and country are now healed but there are lingering doubts about his speed. Will 'Bullet' still have the swift, smooth stride that was his trademark?

'Bullet' is 28-year-old Canberra City defender Harry Williams, who in 1970 became the first Aboriginal to wear the green and gold of the Soccerroos.

A decade has passed since Williams made history in Hong Kong and now he's facing the biggest challenge of his distinguished career: an attempt to re-establish himself in the Australian team after being written off as a contender.

The softly-spoken Williams has an aura of great determination about him.

"I have a burning desire to return to the Australian team," he said deliberately. "I want to wear the green and gold in Spain in 1982."

"To do this I must start all over again. I made it to the World Cup finals in 1974 with Australia but that doesn't count now."

"I know it will take a lot of effort to make it back but it's in my character to strive that little bit harder. I have no doubts about my ultimate goal — to be in our team in Spain."

Williams, a veteran of 43 games for Australia including 18 full internationals, knows he has many barriers to overcome.

"People tend to think I belong to another era because I played in the 1974 World Cup team and that I'm out of the running for any future Australian team," he said.

Williams said he didn't like to think of his return to active playing as a 'comeback'.

"It doesn't take people very long to forget," said Williams. "I was out for a short while and was forgotten. That's human nature."

"But I didn't retire or walk out of soccer. I had a groin injury and then a hamstring injury and was unable to play. I desperately wanted to be fit and playing, but I had to wait until late last season."

Williams obviously will need time to settle in to the Canberra City line up. He will be like a 'new chum' having played only four senior matches in nearly two seasons with City.

"Coach Vic Fernandez has seven or eight warm-up games arranged before the competition starts," said Williams, "and I will be able to get back into the swing during these matches. I lack match fitness at the moment, but have done a lot of other fitness work."

And what about the old Williams dash?

"It's hard to say if I will have the same speed as I did before the lay off," said Williams. "It's a question I have been continually asking myself, but I have no answer."

"The real test will be the practice matches. Only then will I know if I'm any slower, and by how much. But my legs feel in good shape."

However, Williams has looked promising in training. "I have been able to keep up with Walter Valeri, Kenny

Kawaleva and Sebastian Giampaolo," said Williams. "They are the quickest in the squad at the moment and fast by any standards."

"I haven't run flat out yet, but I think I've had some good indications that I will be nearly as fast as I was before the injuries."

Williams' immediate problems, however, may be minuscule compared with the problem he will face later on the road back to the Australian team.

The barrier facing him is one Jim Tansey, who has a vice-like grip on the left back position in the Soccerroo team.

"I've been following the national team's results," said Williams, "and realise Jimmy has been going well. He's a friend of mine and I have nothing against him."

"I will be competing against him for a place. His presence makes my task more difficult but I never have thought it would be easy."

"Midway through last season I played half a dozen games with the Canberra City Roos in the ACT First Division. I found playing at that level was difficult and realised then it would be hard work to again play international soccer."

"I'm under no illusions. I know I have much hard work to do."

Williams also realises that a return to top form still could not guarantee a place in the Soccerroo team.



Former Soccerroo left back Harry Williams, then with St. George, flies past Footscray J.U.S.T. defender Jim Milne. Williams has shaken off troublesome injuries and will resume his career with Canberra City this year.

"The thing that matters most is Rudi Gutendorf's opinion," said Williams. "He selects the players according to his thinking, not anyone else's."

Williams, however, has time on his side. He is still only 28, younger than several other players currently in the Australian team.

"Age should not come into it," said Williams. "Eighteen or 38, it is ability that matters in soccer."

"I honestly think that in international soccer, experience is more important than youth, speed and aggression."

Williams made his point by saying that the Australian team that is facing Czechoslovakia was 'unbalanced'.

"The national team needs experience first and foremost," said Williams. "I think there are players in this country who would greatly benefit the Australian side, but they are not considered."

Williams named Murray Barnes and Peter Stone as two players who are proven at international level.

"I'm adamant that more experienced players must be introduced," said Williams. "It's essential that youngsters are given a go, but a correct balance must be found."

"Australia didn't have the correct balance against Czechoslovakia in Canberra. With more experienced players, Australia would have done better."

Williams' attitude is not a selfish one. He's not saying youngsters should be kept on the sidelines at the expense of older players like himself.

In fact, Williams suffered great disappointment because former national coach Rale Rasid followed the 'experience before youth' policy.

Williams' disappointment came in the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany. He takes up the story.

"Col Curran was injured early in the tour, and was doubtful for the World Cup games," said Williams. "But he managed to get fit enough to play in West Germany, although he was far from 100%."

"I thought I should have played at least two of the World Cup games but in the end played only as a substitute for 10 minutes," it was a great disappointment.

"I realise now that Rasid had the choice between experience and youth and went for experience, even though Curran was still carrying an injury."

Back to the present and the hopes of Canberra City.

"I think Canberra City will surprise many people this season," said Williams. "We had all the ingredients last season but didn't realise our potential."

"This season we have an ever better squad and a lot of confidence."

Canberra's new players include John, Robert and Mike



Heidelberg's Jim Tansey trips over the leg of West Adelaide forward Ian McGregor. Tansey now holds the Australian left back position which Harry Williams wants back.

O'Shea (from St. George), Duncan Cole, Richard Wilson (NZ internationals) and, of course, Williams.

Giampaolo and Valeri may join from NSW State League club Inter Monaro.

"Vic Fernandez was under a lot of pressure last season because it was his first year in the job," said Williams. "The players who joined from overseas are now fully settled in. Everything should fall into place."

If everything goes to plan, 'Bullet' will soon be firing up the left flank again.

GOALSCORER AVAILABLE

Former Ringwood Wilhelmina and Juventus (Vic) striker Freck Torcque returned to Melbourne from Holland on Monday and is seeking a club.

A prolific goalscorer, Torcque would join a Metropolitan League or State League club.

Anyone interesting in signing him should ring 306 9115.



Murray Barnes kicks clear in front of a South Korean opponent during a 1977 World Cup qualifying match. Harry Williams says the Soccerroos need the experience of men like Barnes.

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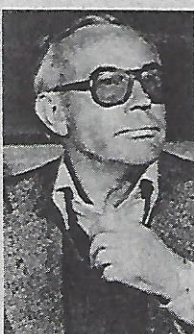
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Super coach to Cosmos

West German coach Hennes Weisweiler of FC Cologne has announced he will join New York Cosmos of the North American Soccer League at the end of this season.

Weisweiler announced his surprise decision last week and flew to Paris to sign a three-year contract worth \$364,000 a year.

The 60-year-old Weisweiler spent 11 years with Borussia Moenchengladbach followed by a season in Spain with Barcelona.



Hennes Weisweiler

before returning to West Germany with Cologne in 1976. Two years later he led them to the league and cup double.

He is the second big name in West German soccer to join Cosmos, the 1974 World Cup captain Franz Beckenbauer signed in 1977.

Forest victory

European Cup holder Nottingham Forest beat Barcelona which won the Cup Winners' Cup last season, 1-0 in Nottingham last week in the first leg of the European "Supercup".

Halftime: 1-0.

Scorer: Charlie George (nine minutes).

The second leg will be played in Barcelona today (Wednesday).

ATTENDANCES JUMP AS GREEKS CELEBRATE

THE WHOLE of Greece appeared to be celebrating the national team's splendid 1-0 victory over Russia, which put them into the European Championship finals for the first time.

National team manager Alkettas Panagoulas has undoubtedly done a marvellous job, resisting public opinion which clamoured for the retention of old established stars, but the manager persevered with his programme of rejuvenation and is being rewarded beyond the wildest dreams.

When the draw was made it appeared that Hungary and Russia would decide the group winner between them. Now these giants of European soccer have both been thrown out! Whether Greece could make an impact in the European finals is of course quite another matter.

The manager is willing to give a chance to young players like Kousoulakis, Xanthopoulos (both Iraklis), Livathinos (Panathinaikos) and Anastopoulos (Panionios).

Panagoulas argues that these players have shown a willingness to fight and they should, together with experienced men like Delikaris (Panathinaikos), Mavron (AEK) and Chatzapanajis (Iraklis) produce a Greek team that will give a good account of themselves against any opposition.

Greek clubs too, look back

on a highly successful domestic season. For three long years gates were dropping until last term brought a dramatic improvement.

A total of 2,502,810 paid admission to the 306 League games, for an average of 8,180. The year before the average was 6,900 and that means a rise of 24 per cent.

Total receipts amounted to 44 million pounds. The most popular club remain Olympiakos Piraeus who sold 417,000 tickets for the 17 home games.

Average attendance 24,560. They were followed by AEK, Panathinaikos, PAOK and Aris.

The highest attendance was registered at Salonika, where 41,910 watched PAOK v. AEK, bringing in 85,000 pounds at the gate. In all 792 goals were scored — 2.6 per match. The leading scorers were: Mavros (AEK) with 31 and joint second best in Europe, Bajevic (AEK) and Kottis (Rhodes) 24; Alvarez (Panathinaikos) 16; Guverino and Orfanos (both PAOK) 15 each.

The only sour note, at the very end, was provided by Olympiakos' refusal to play-off for the title, against AEK, after the clubs finished level on points. Referee Ioannidis and the AEK team waited at the neutral Panathinaikos stadium for ten minutes, then AEK were declared champions.

Two matches from the end Olympiakos had a two-point lead at the top, then followed a 0-0 against Kastoria, where Olympiakos missed three penalties! AEK were trailing one point behind, but won their last game 7-2, while Olympiakos could only manage a 3-3 v. Iraklis in Crete. The referee "gave" the home team an off-side goal and refused Olympiakos a penalty, it was claimed.

The Piraeus club called an extraordinary general meeting of its vast membership but they decided that the team should not play-off for the championship, as they felt cheated by the referees. The rejuvenated team led by the Yugoslav Veselinovic, should have taken the title, but if you haven't got a penalty expert, what can you expect?

A year ago AEK were champions and cup winners under Tschik Guskowski. Then came the famous Ferenc Puskas and led the side to the

top, but in the spring things began to go wrong. Eventually Puskas was deposed. Under his assistant and successor Stamatiadis, AEK won ten games and drew one. Only in the Cup Final the team disappointed its fans losing 3-1 to unfancied Panionios. With 90 goals in 34 matches AEK boasted the second highest scoring attack in Europe (Ajax got 93).

The surprise of the season was Aris Salonika which with a young side led by the Bulgarian Tsatserki reached third place. Fourth (with eleven points in arrears) were PAOK Salonika. They scored 72 goals and conceded the fewest (23), but the new team chief Egon Piechaczek did not have enough time to find the best blend.

Disappointment was in store for Panathinaikos. First the players "dethroned" the Polish manager Kazimierz Gorski, but even under the highly rated Petropoulos the club failed to gain a place in Europe. Jubilation reigned at Panionios who won the Cup under their Greek team boss Panagoulas.

For the new season, which began as usual late on September 30, all the big clubs were very active in the transfer market. Champions AEK bought the Yugoslav Vlade (ex Velez Mostar) for \$130,000. Argiros (Uastoria) for \$160,000; Thodis (Karditsa) \$70,000 and Kaselakis (Aguis) \$17,000. Olympiakos also signed a Yugoslav Novoselac (Dynamo Zagreb) for \$165,000, an Argentinian Luisi (River Plate) \$105,000; Kusselakis (Iraklis) \$260,000 and Gregori (Omonia, Nicosia) \$100,000.

Panathinaikos purchased Ore for \$400,000, Kirisic (Rapid Vienna) for \$110,000; Petriniotis (Fostir) \$110,000; and Tziritoglou (Atenas) \$80,000. Iraklis got Papaionnou and Kalampakas (both ex-Pierikos) for a joint fee of \$600,000; Lukovic and Tzirikas (both ex-Panathinaikos) who cost \$40,000 each. Aris obtained the Uruguayan Rodriguez for \$110,000 and Wakis (ex-Aigaleo) for \$110,000. PAOK hired Agas (ex-Nicosia) for just \$46,000 and Wassilakos (Almimos) for \$35,000.

The 18 First Division clubs spent altogether \$5 million on new players.

— Arthur Rotmil in World Soccer



Greek star Mimis Domazos

Domazos with Panathinaikos

JUST FONTAINE, the man who holds the record as top scorer in the World Cup finals with 13 goals in 1958, has returned to football.

After sad experiences as manager of the French national team and of Paris Saint-Germain, Fontaine has been appointed team boss by Morocco — who hope to return to the 1982 finals, after having featured in Mexico in 1978.

More bad news for Hamburg. After the illness which struck Yugoslav midfielder and defensive star Ivan Buljan, they must now wind up for the League battle with Bayern Munich and the Champions' Cup quarter finals without star right back Manni Kaltz.

He, too, has been ill and will be out for three weeks, possibly a month.

THE EAST German magazine Neue Fussballwoche, has named England as the best national

team of 1979. West Germany were rated second and Holland third. And England's European rivals Italy? No better than seventh.

MIMIS DOMAZOS, Greek football's outstanding player over the past decade, is back with Panathinaikos of Athens after a controversial spell with AEK across the city.

Domazos, who is 38 and has played in 49 internationals, said: "This transfer has been my best Christmas present," he says.

THE OLD rivalry between Bayern Munich and Borussia Moenchengladbach has emerged again, with Bayern sneaking in first to sign Norwegian defender Einar Aas on a 2½ year contract.

Borussia thought they had Aas sewn up, but Uli Hoeness, now Bayern's general manager, made a secret trip to Oslo in a private jet to complete the deal, worth nearly 200,000 pounds to the player.

FERRUCCIO VALCAREGGI, manager of the Italian World Cup team in 1974, has hit back at allegations by Kazimierz Dyna and Jan Tomaszewski that his men tried to bribe Poland to let them win a vital game.

"Our experience in that World Cup was bitter enough without all this nonsense," said Valcareggi. "Poland's manager Kazimierz Gorski, has categorically denied any bribe attempts. And I prefer to believe him."

ASTON VILLA aren't the only club interested in Barcelona's Austrian World Cup star Hans Krankl. The 25-year-old who was top scorer in Spain last season has admitted to offers from West Germany and Italy as well as Sweden. At the invitation of last season's Champions' Cup runners-up, Malmo, he is to run a summer school for budding goalkeepers.

LEV YASHIN, great Russian goalkeeper of the 1950s and early 1960s, will be back in action this summer — in Sweden. At the invitation of last season's Champions' Cup runners-up, Malmo, he is to run a summer school for budding goalkeepers.

Bob Houghton, the English coach of Swedish club Malmo, has paid 32,000 pounds for Blackburn defender Tim Parkin.

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Keegan hit by vandals after decision to quit

Hamburg fans expressed their disappointment and disapproval at Kevin Keegan's decision to quit Germany with more than just words.

The England skipper went to his garage one morning to find his new Mercedes had been vandalised.

The four wheels were missing and damage was estimated at more than a thousand pounds.

A note pinned to the windscreen said it was a protest against his decision to leave at the end of the season.

JAN TOMASZEWSKI, the Clown Prince of Wembley after his World Cup display in November 1973, is at it again. This time it was in making up for a blunder in Beerschoot match against Belgian title-chasing RWD Molenebeek.

Having let a shot slip through his hands, Tomaszewski grew increasingly frustrated at seeing his team-mates fluff the opportunities to equalise.

In the end, in the final seconds, he raced upfield into the RWD penalty area, and headed down a centre to provide the equaliser.

Willie Ormond, the former Scotland team boss and for the past few years manager of Hearts, is to take the Edinburgh club to an industrial tribunal after being fired with 19 months of his contract still to run. Hearts, joined first divi-

sion leaders when Ormond was axed, were the first Scottish club to tour Australia in 1959.

Swedish club IF Darnagord is managed by 58-year-old Ove Malmgren, who has nine sons aged from 19 to 29 in the side with the other two berths filled by his nephews.

Argentina will collect a 50,000 pounds guarantee when they play England at Wembley on May 13 as part of a European tour. They will also meet Republic of Ireland and Sweden.

Tony Woodcock, the former Nottingham Forest striker, can collect 1500 pounds for an hour's work signing autographs in the big German stores. But Kevin Keegan's price is 2000 pounds per hour.

Guyula Lorent recently sacked by Schalke 04 had previously got the boot from seven other German clubs. But Hungarian born Lorent still has admirers and may join a French club.

Alan Biley, 22-year-old Cambridge United striker, transferred to Derby County for a fee reported to be near 400,000 pounds. Biley scored 85 goals in 170 games for Cambridge.

Sepp Maier West Germany's veteran keeper, capped 85 times has given up his fight for fitness after a serious car acci-

dent and is to retire.

Nottingham Forest striker Gary Birtles, an England Under 21 cap who joined the club less than two years ago from a local non-league side for a few thousand pounds, is having his name linked with Naples F.C.

Ian Callaghan finally equalled Bobby Charlton's record of 84 F.A. cup appearances when he came on as sub in the second replay of Swansea's cup-tie with Crystal Palace.

January brought several black spots and sores to soccer in U.K. Within the space of a few days, a policeman was shot dead while on duty after the Crusaders v Portadown game in Northern Ireland, a stone pillar collapsed at the exit of Middelboro's ground at the finish of their game with Manchester United killing a husband and wife, a Swansea fan was stabbed to death and another seriously injured after the Swansea v Crystal Palace cup replay at Cardiff, while the Nottingham Forest chairman Stuart Dryden was jailed for six months for deception offences committed while he was a sub-postmaster. Dryden 51 is also a magistrate.

HEINZ FLOHE, once of Koln fame, has been advised to give up playing at 32 because of a leg injury.

Hellas' turn this time?



Heidelberg striker Jamie Paton — he poses the major threat to Hellas.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Branko Buljevic lines up against his old team for the first time since his \$20,000 transfer from Heidelberg to South Melbourne Hellas when the two teams meet at Middle Park at 5 pm on Sunday.

And his presence on the opposing side means that Heidelberg's dominance over South Melbourne probably has come to an end.

For Buljevic was consistently among the best players in Heidelberg's five victories and three draws over Hellas since the Philips League started in early 1977.

What's more, he was overall top scorer in those matches.

But there are other factors pointing to a Hellas victory — the first in nine matches between the clubs since 1977.

Heidelberg has lost not only Buljevic but also Ken Taylor who is back in Scotland. Gary Cole, Jim Tansey and Jim Rooney have to play for Australia against Czechoslovakia the day before and they won't find it easy.

South Melbourne has players to burn and will use this game to continue trying out various combinations.

The match will provide the Hellas defence with its first serious test. State League forward lines have failed to make an impression during the Ampol Cup, but Jamie Paton, Gary Cole and Jim Campbell certainly will provide Pat Bannan and company with a few headaches.

The match is part of the Buljevic transfer deal, Australia's second most expensive after Jim Hermiston's \$30,000 switch from Grange Thistle to Brisbane Lions.

Possible teams:

HEIDELBERG: Banovic — McMillan, Provan, Zyzanski, Tansey — Selemidis, P. Bannan, Rooney — Campbell, Paton, Cole.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets — V. Bannan, Munro, Blair, Davidson — Rogers, Christopoulos — Ristovski, Evans, Buljevic, Kakantonis.

HEIDELBERG: Banovic — McMillan, Provan, Zyzanski, Tansey — Selemidis, P. Bannan, Rooney — Campbell, Paton, Cole.

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SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets — V. Bannan, Munro, Blair, Davidson — Rogers, Christopoulos — Ristovski, Evans, Buljevic, Kakantonis.



Hellas forward Alun Evans thanks the heavens after scoring a goal.

Branko Buljevic heads a goal for Heidelberg against Hellas goalkeeper Jack Reilly. Buljevic switched from J.U.S.T. to Heidelberg for \$12,500 and from Heidelberg to Hellas for \$20,000.

'WITH DUNLOP THE GAME'S AT YOUR FEET'

John Ballaghan
LIVERPOOL-ENGLAND
CANBERRA CITY-AUSTRALIA



Adam leads Mitcham

Former George Cross defender Bob Adam has taken over as player/coach of Victorian District League club Mitcham.

Adam, who also played with First Division Box Hill, will lead Mitcham in the club's first season in the District League First Division.

Under young player/coach Joe Toplek, Mitcham won promotion last season after being third last at one stage.

Toplek, a former Footscray JUST player, will continue playing with Mitcham.

Adam, who has been with Mitcham for three years, was assistant coach of Box Hill in 1978.

THREE GOALS BY ROGERS, COLE, CAMPBELL

All results and details since 1977:

1977
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Cummings 57th) FITZROY ALEXANDER 1 (Provan 88th) at Middle Park.
HELLAS: Reilly 6 - Pye 8, Xanthopoulos 6, Kalafatis 7, Hagegmanou 6 - Gibson 5, Rogers 5, Daperis 4 (Alexiou 80th) - Cummings 6, Ollerton 6, French 4. Total: 63.
ALEXANDER: Blasby 6 - Nelson 6, O'Reilly 7, Glykokalamos 7, Provan 8, Radovale 6 - Campbell 6 (Selemidis 70th), Taylor 7, P. Bannan 7, Bozikaas 6 (Kokkinos 6 half time), Hujevic 9. Total: 72.
FITZROY ALEXANDER 5 (Buljevic 2, Cole 2, Rogers own goal). SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (Rogers 2) at Olympic Park.
ALEXANDER: Blasby 4 (Whiteside 5, 88th) - V. Bannan 7, O'Reilly 7, Provan 6, P. Bannan 7, McMillan 6 - Campbell 6 (Tansey 82nd), Taylor 7, Bozikaas 7 - Cole 7, Buljevic 9. Total: 75.
HELLAS: Reilly 6 - Pye 8, Xanthopoulos 6, Kalafatis 5, Daperis 4, (Hagegmanou 6 half time), Niten 8, Rogers 6, Gibson 5 - Kent 7, French 6, Ollerton 8. Total: 66.
1978
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Kent 45th) FITZROY ALEXANDER 1 (Cole 63rd) at Middle Park.
HELLAS: Hansen 7 - Pye 8, Kalafatis 6, Baxter 7, Hagegmanou 7 - Lutton 9, Wright 6, Rogers 6 - McGuinness 7, Ollerton 6, Kent 8. Total: 77.
ALEXANDER: Blasby 6 - McMillan 7, Provan 7, P. Bannan 6, Tansey 8 - Campbell 6 (O'Reilly 8 half time) - Bozikaas 6, Cole 7, Buljevic 8. Total: 76.
FITZROY ALEXANDER 4 (Buljevic 2, Campbell, McMillan) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Rogers) at Olympic Park.
ALEXANDER, Blasby 7 - McMillan 8, Provan 7, O'Reilly 7, Tansey 9 - Taylor 9 (injured, sub Micevski 69th), P. Bannan 8, Campbell 9 - Bozikaas 6, Cole 7, Buljevic 9. Total: 89.
HELLAS: Reilly 6 - Pye 8, Kalafatis 6, Baxter 6, Hagegmanou 6 - Lutton 6, Wright 6, Christopoulos 6 (McGuinness 6 half time) - Cummings 6, Rogers 6, G. Campbell 9. Total: 70.
PHILIPS CUP SECOND ROUND
FITZROY ALEXANDER 2 (Buljevic 88th, Taylor 110th) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Cummings 68th) at Olympic Park (night game).
ALEXANDER: Marner 9 - McMillan 8, Provan 7, O'Reilly 9, Tansey 6 - P. Bannan 8, Taylor 8, Campbell 7 - Selemidis 7 (Micevski 94th), Cole 6, Buljevic 7. Total: 84.
HELLAS: Reilly 7 - Pye 8, Baxter 7, Munro 6, Hagegmanou 7 - Lutton 6, Wright 6 (Rogers 8 half time), Christopoulos 6 - G. Campbell 8, Evans 8, Cummings 7. Total: 81.
1979
HEIDELBERG UTD 2 (Buljevic 36th, Taylor 70th) SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Drakeford 62nd, Cummings 79th) at Olympic Park.
HEIDELBERG: Banovic 6 - McMillan 6, O'Reilly 6, Provan 5, Tansey 6 - Rooney 8, Taylor 7, Campbell 7 - Bozikaas 5 (Selemidis 65th min), Cole 6, Buljevic 8. Total: 68.
SOUTH MELBOURNE: Reilly 6 - Kalafatis 7, Baxter 7 (injured, sub Micevski 8, 85th min), Munro 5, Turner 6 - Lutton 5, Wright 5, (Davidson 8, half time), Cummings 6 - Drakeford 7, Evans 7, Campbell 6. Total: 69.
PHILIPS CUP FIRST ROUND
HEIDELBERG 2 (Campbell 60th & 63rd) SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 (Christopoulos 15th) at Olympic Park, crowd about 5000. Banovic 8

DUNLOP
SPORTS
FOOTWEAR

Leo Burnett 4 2074

Bob Bott has Australia well covered

The international career of immaculate St. George defender Doug Utjesenovic ended abruptly when the polished Soccerer suffered a serious knee injury during the 1976 world tour by the national team.

Utjesenovic played 61 times for Australia, including the three World Cup final games in 1974. It was a sad ending for one of the greatest Soccerers.

Unfortunately, Utjesenovic's memories of his career were soured when he had to take legal action to gain compensation after the injury.

This situation is unlikely to occur again now that R.E. Bott Insurance Brokers Pty. Ltd. are the official brokers to the Australian Soccer Federation.

Since 1978, R.E. Bott Insurance Brokers have arranged comprehensive insurance cover for players, officials and referees all over Australia.

The 14 Philips League clubs now have all their players, coaches and officials insured for around \$10 million.

The ASF's National Personal Accident Scheme, formed and distributed by R.E. Bott Pty. Ltd., offers simple, flexible and comprehensive insurance to clubs at all levels of soccer in Australia.

The responsibilities of R.E. Bott Insurance Brokers will increase in the coming years.

Bob Bott, managing director of R.E. Bott Pty., Ltd., is in for a busy time.

But it is working on insurance cover for the 1981 World Youth Cup to be played in Melbourne.

The cover for this event includes insurance for all players, coaches, officials and referees from this country and the 15 other competitors from around the world.

More importantly, Bott will ensure there is comprehensive insurance coverage of the television rights.

The ASF will sell the television rights to a channel and advertisers are expected to spend millions during the tournament.

The danger lies in any boycott of the youth tournament by Communist nations if Western

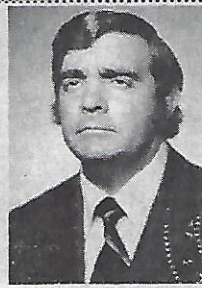
nations go ahead with their proposed boycott of the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow.

If such a boycott went ahead, advertisers and television stations would lose heavily. The ASF also will be covered in the event of matches being postponed because of adverse weather conditions.

R.E. Bott can handle all insurance needs — from world championships to the smallest club matter.

Clubs need to protect their players and indeed, protect themselves. With transfer fees increasing all the time, no club can risk its assets.

R.E. Bott Pty., Ltd., is expert at handling all insurance matters.



Bob Bott

TOMMY BURNS CUP AXED, RICHMOND TO SIGN GROENEWALD?

The Victorian Soccer Federation has axed the Tommy Burns Memorial Trophy after only one season of competition.

The shock decision is sure to bring angry responses from Metropolitan League clubs, who will see the axing of the knock out competition as a backward step.

Soccer House has made no official explanation, but it looks a plain case of the VSF hierarchy considering the Burns Cup as unnecessary extra work for the administration.

The decision to axe the competition was made by the VSF Board of Management — a group of men with no direct interest in the Metropolitan League.

The competition was named after the late Tommy Burns, a former VSF vice-president and patron, who died in 1978.

The inaugural (and final) Tommy Burns Memorial Cup was won by Ringwood City, which defeated Western Suburbs 4-1 at Wembley Park, Box Hill, early last season.

The pre-season knock out competition for Metropolitan League clubs before the inauguration of the Burns Cup was the Cumberland Cup.

This competition was sponsored by Cumberland Newspapers, and carried substantial prize money. Would the VSF brains trust have axed the format if the pre-season competition was still sponsored? I doubt it very much.

Just for the record, the Cumberland Cup winners were: 1975 — Preston Macedonia, 1976-77 — Box Hill, 1978 — Croydon City.

The disappearance of the Burns Cup means Metro teams will have the Dockerty Cup at their only competitive games before the gruelling league programme.

The majority of the Metro clubs will play only one Dockerty Cup match, and most will play no more than two. That's poor preparation for the league season.

The Burns and Cumberland Cups provided Metropolitan teams with good competitive



David O'Connor

and ... wait for it ... is to be given a new name.

The new, inspiring name is the Metropolitan Cup (yawn).

Plunkett back in action

Former Croydon City and Mooroolbark defensive giant Mike Plunkett has been re-appointed coach of Third Division club Ringwood Utd.

And because he is still suffering from the ailment that hits many veterans' — itchy feet — Plunkett will continue as a player with Utd.

"I've been training solidly," said Plunkett, "and I'm feeling as fit as I have for a long time."

Don't like sitting on the bench watching a game. I want to be involved, and I'm very enthusiastic about the coming season."

Plunkett gave up playing for about 18 months when he was coach of Croydon City. His reign at Croydon ended midway through last season when he was replaced by Norm Hobson.

Last season he lifted Ringwood Utd to promotion, ending the season with a remarkable eight-game unbeaten run.

Plunkett was coach of Croydon for 21 seasons, and during that time played occasionally with Industrial League team Bowater Scott.

Plunkett coached Ringwood Utd in the early 1970s before switching to Mooroolbark.

Ringwood Utd is hoping to re-establish itself as a top Metropolitan League club in the next few years. In the early 70s, Utd was in the First Division, but slowly slid down into the Fourth Division.

Plunkett said his aim was the Second Division.

"There's no use going up to consolidate," he said. "We will be chasing promotion, and if we can find two classy players — a midfielder and a forward — we will have a strong side."

Plunkett already has many experienced players at his disposal including Alex Nelson, Ronnie Brown (ex-Heidelberg), Fred Eggers, Tom Kreskias, George Kreskias (ex-Ringwood City) and Tom Kelly (ex-Croydon).

Melbourne axes six players

Second Division club Melbourne has transfer-listed six players from the team which was relegated last season.

Up for sale are Billy Rae, John Kennedy, Kenny Hall, John Bird, Steve Wild and Alan Lee.

Kennedy, the former South Melbourne, Heidelberg Utd and Essendon Croatia goalkeeper, has been appointed coach of Fourth Division club Sandringham City.

Sandringham and Melbourne are currently negotiating a transfer fee for Kennedy.

Rae joined Melbourne in 1978 from Albion Rovers and helped the club win promotion from the Second Division. He previously played in the State League with Hakoah St Kilda.

Hall was transferred to Melbourne from Box Hill at the start of the 1979 season. He is believed to be interested in returning to Box Hill.

Melbourne will not venture into the transfer market to replace these players. Instead, the once-great Hungarian club will nurse a youth policy.

Victorian Round-up with KYLE PATTERSON



Milenko Rusmir (left, above) and Cedo Cirkovic will be opposing coaches in the Second Division this season. They once played together at Footscray J.U.S.T.

Melbourne secretary Bill Hargitay said: "The club has produced fine young players over the years, and hopes this season promising juniors Rob Erdog, George Keenan and Ernie Toth will be top players in the team."

Keeping in line with the youth policy, Melbourne has appointed long-serving coach Bill Naday, who has worked for many years with Melbourne's juniors.

Reserve coach is Charlie Kiser, who has coached Melbourne junior for many years.

John Toth is president of Melbourne and Michael Lengyel the chairman.

O'Connor retained

David O'Connor, who masterminded Richmond's dramatic rise into the First Division, has been re-appointed coach of the club.

O'Connor, who played with Brisbane Lions and Canberra City, has the task of preserving Richmond's First Division status.

Richmond will be hoping its stay in the First Division will be lengthy. The last time Richmond won promotion to the First Division (for the 1969 season), it failed to meet the new standards and was relegated after just one season.

However, with experienced players like Johnny Wallace (ex-Essendon Croatia) and Mike Kupinic (ex-Ringwood City), both who joined the club last season, Richmond is well-equipped.

President Hans Kuss, who recalled that Richmond won promotion to the State League exactly 20 years ago, said he was confident the club would do well this season.

Richmond is likely to sign defender Gary Groenewald (ex-Hakoah, Hellas, Melbourne) from Ringwood City. Former J.U.S.T. goalkeeper Milan Djivic also is training with Richmond.

Kalinchev at Altona Gate

John Kalinchev, who was a coach with Collingwood City



Mike Plunkett (centre), now coach of Richmond Utd, 'shoots' at goal for Bowater Scott.



Cedo Cirkovic will be opposing coaches in the Second Division this season. They once played together at Footscray J.U.S.T.

Altona Gate's new ground at Paisley Reserve is now ready for use following the arrival of five portable buildings at the ground.

The Altona council has provided the portable facilities for the 1980 season, as permanent structures will not be built until 1981.

The portable changing rooms are approximately 20 ft x 12 ft. Three will be used as changing rooms for teams, one for the referees and one as a toilet block.

Haslar to lead Brighton

Colin Haslar is the new coach of Third Division club Brighton.

Haslar, who coached Box Hill to fourth position in the First Division in 1978, was assistant coach to Harry Chalkitis at Prahran Slavia last season.

Brighton hopes to sign two or three players for 1980, and will endeavour to retain all players from last season.

Fred Bakewell is president of Brighton, with Nick Economou the secretary and Arthur Scott the chairman.

Versatile Gerardes

If Third Division club Ferntree Gully was looking for a versatile coach, it certainly picked the right man.

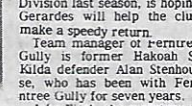
Bert Gerardes has soccer coaching qualifications gained in West Germany and Holland, is a full-time tennis coach, a swimming instructor as well as a fitness director at the Knox Fitness Centre.

The players at Ferntree Gully will surely have the most varied training around!

Gerardes recently returned to Australia after living in Holland for three years. He lived in Australia for many years prior to returning to Holland.

Ferntree Gully, which was relegated from the Second Division last season, is hoping Gerardes will help the club make a speedy return.

Team manager of Ferntree Gully is former Hakoah St Kilda defender Alan Stenhouse, who has been with Ferntree Gully for seven years.



Alan Stenhouse

Ferntree Gully, is angry at the Victorian Soccer Federation for abolishing the thirds competition.

The thirds competition was abolished after the 1979 season. Ferntree Gully will field a youth team instead of a thirds side this season.

Team mates now rivals

Former team mates Milenko Rusmir and Cedo Cirkovic will have a friendly rivalry this season.

Rusmir and Cirkovic, defensive partners in the Footscray J.U.S.T. team during the 1960s will be opposition coaches in the Second Division this season.

Rusmir will coach the Footscray team, and Cirkovic will lead the South Melbourne team, both nursery teams of the Philips League clubs.

Fr Richard Gamanski, who coached Ardeer during last season, is the new coach of Heidelberg Utd's Second Division team.

Hat-trick for Murney?

Hugh 'Shuggy' Murney will lead Park Rangers in a bid for a hat trick of league championships.

Park Rangers won the Fourth Division in 1978, and followed that achievement up by taking the Third Division crown last season, both successes with Murney at the helm.

The Second Division will be a much harder nut to crack, but Murney has many experienced players in his squad.

Two players linked with Park Rangers are Andy Savage of Dandenong City and John Bray of Doveton.

Joe Dockett has been re-appointed team manager at Park Rangers, but a reserve coach is yet to be appointed.

Rangers hope to retain all players from 1979, but Chris Petrov, who joined the club from Preston Macedonia last season, is believed to be interested in a move to a First Division club.

Sacco, boss at Broadmeadows

Former George Cross defender Louis Sacco is the new coach of Third Division Broadmeadows City.

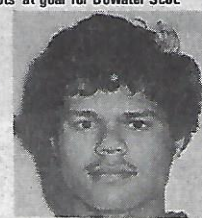
Sacco, who coached Broadmeadows' reserve team to a championship success in 1978, replaces Ian Reed, who has returned to Sunbury.

Sacco inherits a young team, which has a good chance of winning promotion. Last season, Broadmeadows finished fourth, and hopes the young team will benefit from the experience.

The only player leaving at this stage is winger Greg Pearson, whose employment



Eddie Ethimouth



Gary Groenewald has taken him to South Australia.

City hopes the following players will form the backbone of the senior team:

Johnny Sandra — who has won Broadmeadows best and fairest award for the past two seasons, and is a top prospect.

Dennis Pace — who is an agile goalkeeper.

Jim O'Neill — a skilful winger who was set to join Hakoah St Kilda as a junior, but stuck with Broadmeadows.

Barry Alderson — a fine full back.

Metro. debut for Nunawading

Nunawading City, which dramatically won promotion to the Metropolitan Fourth Division last season, is the youngest club in the Metro. ranks.

Nunawading was formed in 1971 as a junior club, and didn't field a senior team until 1973, when it entered the Provisional League.

Now, after only seven seasons, Nunawading City finds itself going into the Fourth Division with a team capable of giving the league a big shake.

'Nuna' has former Box Hill forwards Serge Berardini and Stuart McQueen leading its attack.

In midfield are Richard West and former Box Hill and Doncaster player Andy Minton.

Scott Dean and Eddie Long are key players in defence.

Nunawading's coach for 1980 is Eddie Ethimouth, who has been involved with the club since its inception.

Van Altena returns

Rudi van Altena has been appointed coach of Third Division Coburg after a year's absence.

Also returning to Coburg is full back Kevin Taylor, who switched to Australian Rules football last season.

Talented midfielder and former Yugoslav Second Division player Vaseco Topalov has signed for another season, but Coburg is still in need of experienced senior players.

Coburg's ground at Hosken Reserve has been re-turfed, and the club is confident the pitch will be one of the best playing surfaces in the Metropolitan League this season.

Coburg will field three junior teams this season — under 10, 13 and 15 sides.

Junior manager Peter Greening advises that training nights are Tuesday and Thursday at 5.30 pm at Hosken Reserve.

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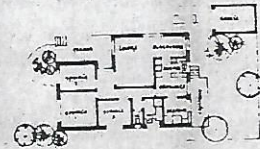
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Cumming takes on his Socceroo team-mates



• Marconi, from left, standing: Krncevic, Henderson, Jankovics, Degney, Russell. Front: Sharne, Vieri, Prskalo, Byrne, Maher, Berry.

By
LAURIE
SCHWAB



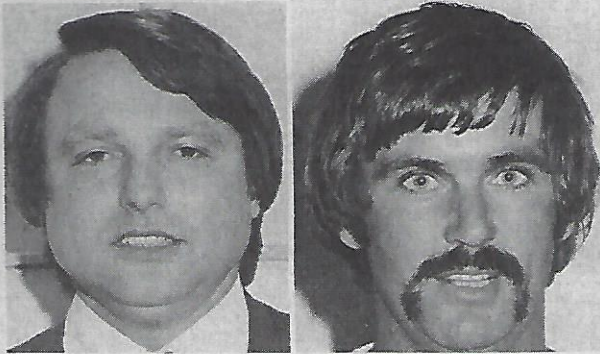
• Croatia's star signing Noel Mitten, in full flight.

Dinamo's going places

HNK Dinamo will meet Fawkner at 2.30 pm in the curtain-raiser to the Croatia v. Marconi match at Olympic Park No. 2 on Sunday.

Dinamo, based at St. Albans, has won the Fourth and Third Divisions of the Victorian Industrial League in the past two seasons.

Among the best results achieved by this young club are a 1-1 draw with Sydney Croatia in the Croatian tournament in Canberra in 1978, a 2-1 victory over Croatia Hobart in Perth last year and a 3-1 victory over Victorian First Division club Doven in the Dockerty Cup last season.



Marconi coach Les Scheinflug

Croatia coach John Gardiner

Marconi coach Les Scheinflug expects tough opposition from Essendon Croatia when the champions of Australia meet the champions of Victoria at Olympic Park No. 2 at 4 pm on Sunday.

The game is part of the deal that saw Eddie Krncevic transfer from Croatia to Marconi early last year.

"Marconi was knocked out of the Phillips Cup by State League sides Melita Eagles and Sydney Croatia in the past few years, so we won't take this game lightly," Scheinflug said this week.

"If Essendon can win the Victorian championship two years in a row, it has to be a hell of a team."

"I know what Tommy Cumming and Steve Kokoska can do, and I have great admiration for both of them."

"I don't know the other players as well, but I've made a few enquiries from people at Footscray and Hellas, and they all tell me that Croatia is an excellent side."

"However, my boys are in extremely good shape after our unbeaten tour of Indonesia. Many of them were also on Australia's tour of China and they've been playing against Czechoslovakia, so they're all very fit."

"Mark Jankovics had a hamstring injury, but he's

okay again after a bit of treatment from the doctor travelling with the Czech team. Roberto Vieri has been training like a teenager, so we can expect good things from him as well."

It should be a fascinating encounter — one that should show us how close Croatia is to Philips League standard.

The game will give playing coach John Gardiner an additional opportunity to experiment with his many players in his quest for the best possible combination.

He has yet to decide how best to use new recruits Noel Mitten, Joe Tront, Peter Lewis and Mick Klarin, keeping in mind the claims that other players may or may not have to places in the team.

Croatia has proved itself the undisputed king of Victorian State League soccer over the past two seasons, and Tommy Cumming has earned the honor of being best player, having twice won the Rothmans Gold Medal.

On Sunday he will oppose his Socceroo team-mates Tony Henderson, Peter Sharne, Ivo Askalo,

Jankovics and Krncevic. Cumming, Gardiner, Mitten, Steve Short, Tront, Kokoska and Carl Gilder are all in the State squad which has beaten Red Star, Partizan Belgrade and AEK Athens over the past 12 months.

Marconi, the 1979 Philips League champion, features no less than nine Socceros — Allan Maher, Prskalo (1980 Australian Player of the Year), John Russell, Paul Degney, Gary Byrne, Henderson, Jankovics, Krncevic and Sharne.

Then there's Vieri, who was in the Italian national squad, and new recruit Peter Raskopoulos, an Australian youth international.



Eddie Krncevic (left), on tour with the Socceros, races coach Rudi Gutendorf to the top of the Great Wall of China.



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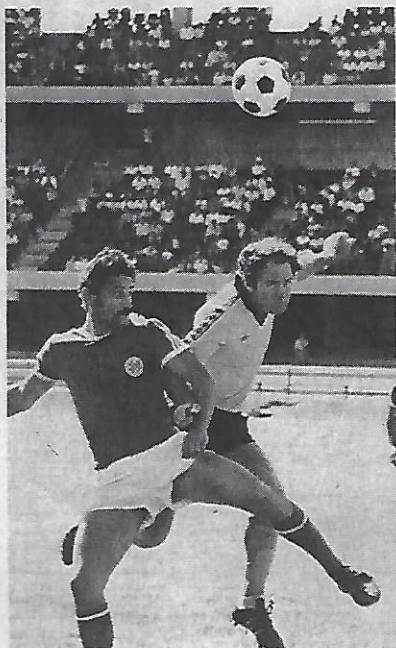
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AMPOL CUP



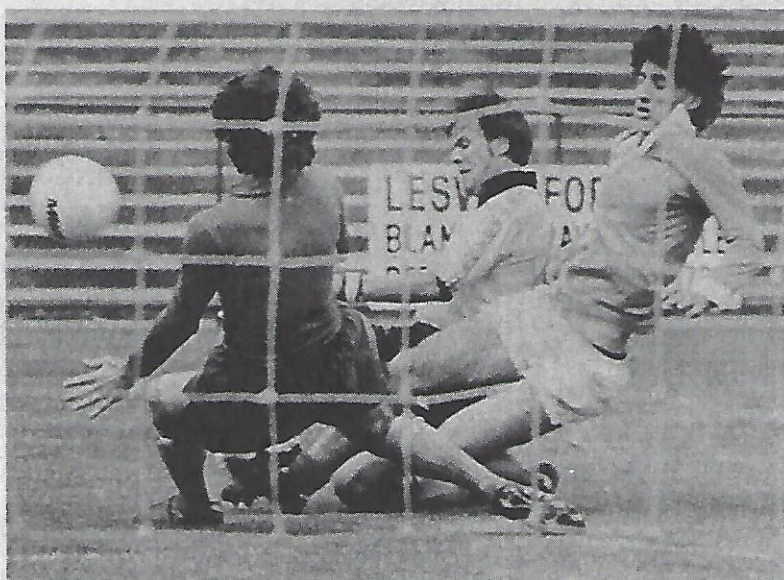
A tense heading duel between Croatia's Steve Kokoska (left) and Sunshine's Stewart Gilmour. Croatia won 3-0.



The ball bounces awkwardly for Makedonia's Rob Cullen (left) as he attacks Slavia's new goalkeeper Elvio Pugliese (ex-Sandringham). The other Slavia player is Dave Pye.



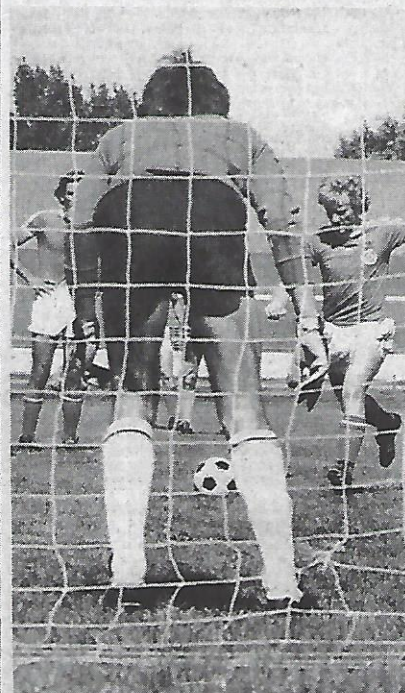
Ajax centre back John Patten chests down the ball in front of Frankston recruit Kevin Wall (ex-Frankston Pines). Behind Patten is Bernie Torner.



Albion Rovers goalkeeper, Billy Johnson, and full back Tony Gatt (right) combine to foil Sunshine's Rob Nelson. Albion won 2-1.



John Yzendoorn of Heidelberg gets his body and elbow in front of Frankston's Tony Blacklaw.



Ken Murphy scores a penalty against Sunshine.

ACTION

● PHOTOGRAPHER LES SHORROCK AT THE VICTORIAN AMPOL CUP



Shall we dance? Sunshine's Stewart Gilmour (left) and Albion's Bill McIntyre kick up their heels.



George "Superman" McMillan soars through the air to win a header. Slavia's David Pye (left) looks a little overawed.



What's Noel Mitten doing among all those Juventus players? Mitten, who had transferred from Frankston, was making his debut for Croatia, which won the match 2-1. Mitten scored the winning goal. The Juventus players, from left, are: Incantalupo, Heery, Sabadini, Curcio, Gillan, Vaughan and Della Rocca.



Arthur McMillan, star of Heidelberg's 1-0 victory over Frankston, weaves his way between Peter Martinovic and John Taylor.



Albion Rovers goalkeeper, Bill Johnson, flies high to catch the ball in front of Sunshine's Stewart Gilmour. Between them is Sunshine midfielder Frank Mussell and at left Mike Dixey.



Altona goalkeeper Hans van der Poel follows a Heidelberg shot into the net. Behind him team mate Kevin Wilson and at left Pat Bannion of Heidelberg, which won 3-1.

ZIKA NIKOLIC



SAMODISCIPLINA DOPUNJUJE TALE-NAT

Cehoslovačka reprezentacija je ponovila u Sidneju rezultat i igru, koju je pokazala u Kanberi. Drugo se nije moglo očekivati, jer je Cehoslovačka od uvek bila nogometna velesila, sa velikom sportskom tradicijom i bogatim iskustvom, a najviše samodisciplinom, koja zadovoljuje i neophodno je oruđe svakog sportiste. Možda drugi narodi imaju veće talente, koji krace blistaju, dok Cehoslovci uvek računaju na dugu stazu. A tu je samodisciplina možda važnija od talenta ili je bar jednaka. Ako Gutendorf zeli da spase cast, ne pobedom, već jednim postignutim golom, onda mora iz osnovu da promeni sastav australijske reprezentacije za treći i poslednji susret u Melburnu, 9. februara. Kostur toga tima treba da uzme iz Viktorije, koja je dobila sve internacionalne susrete prošle i ove godine. Ne treba zaboraviti da je Zvezda na dve utakmice u Melburnu primila 4 gola, a ni jedan na ostale tri u Australiji. pored toga, videli bi da li Viktorija pobeđuje strane timove zato što stvarno vredi ili zato što su gosti "drogirani" umorom od dugog i napornog puta i naglom promenom podneblja.

U svakom slučaju susret sa Cehoslovačkom zaslužuje da se Olympic Park ispuni do poslednjeg mesta, jer će nam gosti pružiti sve ono što se očekuje od jednog velikog tima, koji može trenutno da se uspava (kao u Newcastleu), ali nikada potpuno da podbac.

ZAVRŠENA PRVA RUNDA AMPOL KUPA

Ni poslednje kolo nije donelo priželjkivano i očekivano iznenađenje. Medjutim, pored najbolje želje i srčnosti Slavija nije mogla nikako da pobeđi JUST-a, a Green Gully Ajax jos manje oslabljenog Heidelberga. JUST je dobar deo utakmice igrao lose. Medjutim, za svo vreme Slavija je poslala same jedan sat na JUST-ova vrata, koji se odbio od prečke. U završnici je JUST nadoknadio sve što je propustio pre toga i zaslužio pobeđu neiskusnog protivnika. Ali jasno je da JUST nema potpun tim a sto je najgore ključni igrači jos uvek su van forme. Do sada je "plave" pomoglo iskustvo i sportska sreća, ali u polufinalu bice drukcije. Alexander ce nastupiti u punom sastavu, dok ce "plavi" strahovati da se jos neko ne povredi iz ove

skromne ekipe, koja se rodila pod sretnom zvezdom.

U drugom polufinalu sastaju se Hellas i Croatia, što obecava veliku i uzbudljivu igru.

Vecina strunjaka ocekuje grčko finale Ampol Kupa, a ja mislim da ce biti NASE (ako je to pogodan izraz) ili bar mesovito, jer u ovakvim prilikama jedino mi mozemo da iznenadimo ne same drugoga, već najviše sami sebe. Zbog toga polufinala i finale ne treba uporedjivati sa formom i igrom, koju smo videli u predtakmicenju.

Steta sto nas od polufinala razdvajaju dve pune nedelje, ali mozda je taj predah dobrodosao igracima sva cetiri tima, jer se od sada igra puno vreme (90 minuta).

TURNIR U LILIJADALI

Springvale United je domacin turnira za JAT-ov pehar, koji pocinje u nedelju 10. februara na Lilydale Sports Centru od 10 sati pre podne. Zreb ce se obaviti pola sata ranije. Prijavili su se sledeci klubovi: Springvale City, Springvale United, drugi tim JUST-a, TARAX, Plavi Dunav, Vojvodina/Wiltona, Bosna i JASK iz Geelonga. Svi timovi treba da budu na igralistu pre određenog vremena, jer se ne zna ko ce prvo igrati. Ekonomisti moraju da ponese najmanje dva kompleta dresova razlicitih boja. Ako dva tima imaju iste dresove, zreb ce odrediti ko mora da promeni boju.

NAJMLADJI — NAJBOLJI

Na trening utakmicama izmedju drugog tima JUST-a i Carlton/Srbije mladi Pejkovic (star 14 godina) nosio je plavi dres zadnjih 15 minuta, sto je bilo dovoljno da postigne najljepši gol i pokaze druge osobine, koje pretkazuju velikog igraca.

Razume se, ako se ne pokvari i uobrazil! Drugi tim JUST-a je pobeđio sa 6:1 (2:1). Strelci: Pavle Simic 2, Hristo Petrov, Dusko Atanasovski, Milan Kazanovski i Pejkovic za JUST, Vljacic za Carlton/Srbiju. JUST je nastupio u sledecem sastavu: Vidacic, Petrov, Ivica Karic, Kazanovski, Ljube Talevski, Aceski (Tom Karic), Vasko Stojevski (Pejkovic), Simic (Slobodan Stojevski), Vukovic, Atanasovski (Mitrovic), Smargrevski.

Za JUST nisu igrali Vlatko Belic i Sulejman Curovic, jer su izabrani u uzi sastav omladinske reprezentacije Australije, koja se priprema za Omladinsko prvenstvo sveta (Kup Coca-Cole) 1981. godine u Adelaidi.

SPAIN: NEXT STOP FOR JOHNSTON?

By JACK MATTHEWS

Craig Johnston, the 19 year-old Newcastle midfielder who has done so well in the English First Division, wants to further his football future in places out of England.

Johnston hinted at this when he made a surprise visit to his home at Fishington Point, a Lake Macquarie centre.

He said then he was considering accepting an invitation to play with an England international side although he would then be committed to playing for England in the future. But he realised that the prestige of having played for England would add much value to his worth.

Now comes word that Johnston is rejecting offers made by John Neal, the manager of the Middlesbrough club for which Johnston plays, to stay with the club when his contract ends at the end of the English season.

Although he owns property in Middlesbrough, Johnston wants to escape the English winters and so has his sights set on offers from South and North America and some European countries, particularly Spain.

Whether he plays for England or not, Johnston could gain international ranking in whatever warmer climate he may settle by becoming a citizen of that country. It seems that such a prospect would not worry him since he is so obviously intent on making an outstanding career in soccer for himself — and, at the same time — selling his services to the highest bidder.

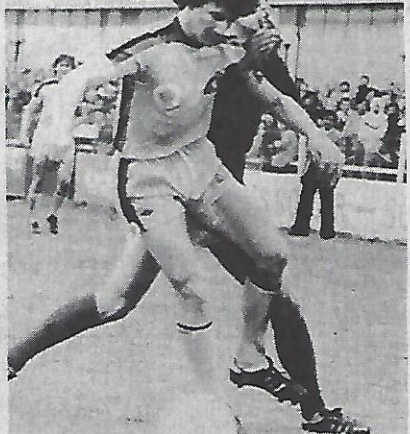
There is another aspect, although probably a remote one.

Because of Johnston's obvious wish to leave England as soon as he completes his commitments with Middlesbrough, Ron Greenwood, the England team manager, might not now be so keen to have Johnston in his squad.

And Middlesbrough, knowing that it will not have him by the end of next season, might not be averse to releasing Johnston in the off-season so that he can come to Australia to join Rudi Gutendorf's national squad which will be training for the World Cup series in Spain in 1982.

And it is to Spain that Johnston would like to go.

What better way to gain the offers he wants than to be a member of Australia's team in the World Cup series — if Australia's



Craig Johnston, in Newcastle Utd colors, is a star with English club Middlesbrough.

team can qualify. And Johnston's inclusion would probably do much to help it gain a place in the final series.

If England's wintry blasts force Johnston to leave Middlesbrough, he will be the second player from Northern N.S.W. to reject a promising career in U.K. Soccer for that very reason.

Cliff Almond, of Cessnock, who played many times for Australia, and who was an outstanding defender — and winger too if so needed — rejected several handsome offers to sign for Scottish clubs after a short period several years ago, in the Scottish First Division. He wanted to stay, but the cold drove him home.

Yugoslav Cup kicks off

Eight teams will contest a Yugoslav Cup tournament sponsored by Yugoslav Airlines over the next two weeks.

The first round will be played on a knock-out basis at Lilydale Reserve on Sunday.

The finals will be at Ross Reserve, Springvale, on Sunday, February 17.

Yugoslav Airlines will provide a Cup,

\$200 and a team strip to the winning side.

Contestants are: Springvale United, (organiser of the tournament), Springvale City under 19s, Footscray J.U.S.T. Seconds, Tarax, Blue Danube, Wiltona Vojvodina, Bosna, Jask Geelong.

Tarax, hot favorite to win the Cup, will field new signing Ray King from Bosch Dynamo. King previously was with Altona City, Footscray J.U.S.T., and Keilor Austria.



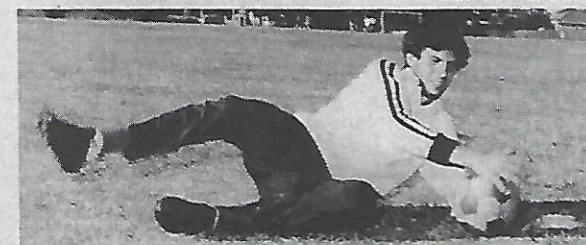
Springvale United, organisers of the Yugoslav Cup competition. Standing from left: Milos Busija (groundsman), Steve Janic, Ivan Kulpinac, Milenko, Culibrik (captain), Milenko Busija, Dragoslav Jelacic, Zika Stojnic, Nikola Petrovic (coach), Mike Pejac (committeeman). Front: Bosko Ardicic (secretary), Steve Jelacic, John Sivcov, Zlatko Kajim, Peter Smirnan, Mirko Smirnan (president). Absent: Hiko Kajim.

United, an amateur club, was formed five years ago and has been league champion for the past three years, as well as winner of the Yugoslav Cup and Blue Danube Cup.

Best player and top scorer in the league was captain Milenko Culibrik who notched 39 goals. United plans to buy 18 acres of land at Kaysborough for a new ground and clubrooms.

★ All pictures by BERNIE GRIFFITHS

Milenko Culibrik



Springvale Utd goalkeeper Risto Pajunov dives low at training.



Green Gully's new coach Bobby McLachlan (third left) pictured training Australian Schoolboys' team players (from left) Charlie Yankos, Tom O'Halloran and Eddie Kmcveic.

McLachlan to instill pride at Ajax

Green Gully Ajax (Vic) president Guy Spiteri had to make several calls before Bobby McLachlan "out of embarrassment" agreed to go up to have a look at the set-up and discuss the possibility of taking the coaching job.

Yet when McLachlan did go, Spiteri was honest enough to give him all the hard facts and painted anything but a good picture.

The club had finished in the relegation zone for three years, several senior players were dissatisfied, most of the contracts had run out and needed re-negotiating and there was no big dough to splash around in the transfer market.

The honesty and enthusiasm struck McLachlan and though the set-up was amateurish, the basis was there for a challenge and "something just clicked."

"The club built magnificent social rooms but had forgotten the team in the process," explains McLachlan. "Gully has a number of talented players who came here with big reputations, but they've let themselves go."

"Lack of loyalty is the thing that kills soccer in the State League and what I've now got to instill in the players is a sense of being with a club, a willingness to show some fight, a streak of pride even, to be wearing the green and white uniform."

By PETER DESIRA

In his three weeks in charge, he has managed to sort out a number of things.

"We know more or less where we're going now. The first thing was to get our own players in order."

"The first player I signed was Billy Vojtek. He gave his all for the club last year and it was a boost that we convinced him to stay. Since then we've sorted out Lou Denys, Peter Donaldson, John Patten, Steve Crilly, Willie Vassallo, David Hogben... David Perkin and Steve Bennie are back from overseas holidays, and we've got two players coming over from England."

Vassallo was bought outright from Maltese club Floriana last week. Supporters at Ajax donated \$1000 to secure Vassallo.

Gully have only got one "temporary permit" player — Vassallo — and McLachlan has gone to great lengths to ensure the two imports are good quality players.

"I've got all the details about their age, playing strengths and their character, and they will definitely be valuable to the squad."

The only player McLachlan has lost is centre half John Cain, the hard man in the back line.

"The loss of John was a pity," admits the coach, "but the terms we offered him weren't suitable and he felt he had to go to Perth. We hope there will be an opportunity for him to come back but we can't stand and wait in the meantime."

Three youngsters from the reserves have been added to the senior squad following an impressive showing in the

Ampol Cup. They are Jeff Banagan — the fourth in the list of Banagan brothers, Bernie Turner — son of former Richmond Alemania player Gerry Turner, and Turi De Freitas — a gifted utility who's filled many roles in the reserves.

"They may not get many games in the first team," warns McLachlan, "but it is in our interest to work on them. Once the season starts I hope to have them for an extra night's specialised training every week along with the pick of the club's juniors."

So things are taking shape slowly. But although the club is retaining the bulk of last year's squad, it doesn't mean there won't be changes.

"Some might not make it depending on their attitude," McLachlan is quick to point out, "but I'd like to give them the opportunity to prove themselves. If they come good there's a place for them at the club; if not, it's no good having them hanging round for another year."

The canny Scot is also straight forward about his aims. "We couldn't be silly enough to talk about championships or even the top four. More realistically, what we're looking for this season is to build a team and get a fair run."

All this reflects a tremendous amount of enthu-

siasm one would hardly expect from a coach who was not disappointed by a Phillips League club after helping them to stave off relegation.

"I wasn't really disappointed," reflects McLachlan, "it would have been nice to be given the opportunity to build a team in the PSL but at Footscray, every week was a do or die effort; the players were pitched on the field under constant pressure."

"Still I achieved what I set out to do."

"The only reason why I would have liked to stay in the Phillips League is I enjoyed the shrewdness and cunning that goes on in the coaching. A lot more thought goes into the game and the personal satisfaction that goes with outmanoeuvring the likes of say, Rale Rasic, to win a game is much more rewarding than any pay packet."

"But going back to the present, make no mistake, Green Gully is a big challenge for me and I want to help the club establish itself as a force in the State League."

The hard work at the Gully lies ahead. But it's little wonder that there has been a new wave of interest among the club supporters since his arrival.

Maybe this year, they won't have to do the nail-biting while the relegation issue is being fought out.

NEW CLUBS IN VWSA

The Victorian Women's Soccer Association has two new clubs for the 1980 season — Heidelberg Utd and Watsonia. The VWSA has slowly grown over the years, and has now two divisions.

An extraordinary annual general meeting has been called by the VWSA. The meeting will take place at the South Melbourne Helles Social Club at Middle Park. The date of the meeting is February 27.

FIFA



Youth team gets giant boost from Coke

Unprecedented support for the Australian youth team from Coca-Cola was announced at a function held in Sydney last week.

The commitment means that Coca-Cola will meet the cost of training and assembling the Australian youth team in a remarkable build-up programme.

An overseas tour to Europe or South America will take place late this year.

This commitment to the young Soc-

ceros represents stage two of the company's sponsorship of the World Youth Championships.

Coca-Cola's total outlay is \$1.5 million to defray the cost of bringing 15 youth international teams to Australia for the October, 1981, tournament.

The Australian youth squad will train intensively in Melbourne next month and then in April, May, June, August and October.

They will play early fixtures to internationals in Australia this year, including the Australia-England match at the Sydney Cricket Ground on June 1.

Australian Soccer Federation president Sir Arthur George said, "The 1981 World Youth Championship is one of the world's most important sporting tournaments.

"It will most certainly be the biggest soccer event held in this country."

"Between now and the completion of the finals in October 1981 the eyes of the soccer world will be on us.

"Not only do we have to prepare a worthy national team — we also will play host to teams from 15 other nations."

FIFA



YOUNG ROOS VIE FOR TRIP TO NOUMEA

By LAURIE SCHWAB

The cream of Australia's young players will be on view in the curtain-raiser to the Socceroo's international match against Czechoslovakia at Olympic Park on Saturday.

The curtain-raiser, between the Australian Colts and the Australian Youth team, starts at 6.15 pm. The main match kicks off at 8 pm.

A trip to Noumea for the Oceania Cup tournament late this month will be the prize for the players who prove themselves to be good enough.

National coach Rudi Gutendorf will pick the best nine of the youth players to join the best Colts in an 18-man squad which leaves for Noumea on February 20.

The Colts team which will appear in the curtain-raiser at Olympic Park on Saturday comprises mainly players who contested the qualifying rounds for the World Youth Championships in New Zealand and Paraguay in the summer of 1978-79.

Almost all of them have become top senior players in the Philips League — Alan Davidson (South Melbourne), Malcolm McClelland, Peter Tredinick (Newcastle KB Utd), Graham Jennings (Sydney Olympic), Danny Moulis, Mike Milovanovic (Canberra City) and Steve Hogg (Brisbane Lions).

John Spanos (Sydney City) and probably Craig Hall (Sutherland), Peter Katholos (St George) and Brett Cowburn (Newcastle KB United) also will be in the Colts squad.

South Melbourne and Victorian State player George Christopoulos will play in the Colts team if he is not required for the main match.

He and David Jones of Adelaide City were added to the senior Socceroo squad by coach Rudi Gutendorf last week.

Gutendorf picked 17 players for the youth squad from among 40 who attended trials at Englefield Stadium, Dural (NSW), last week.

Some of the 17 already have made their mark in senior soccer.

They include midfielder Peter Raskopoulos who transferred from Sydney Olympic to Marconi for \$15,000 recently, centre back Steve Blair who joined South Melbourne during the off-season from State League club Albion Rovers, captain Ian Hunter who joined Blacktown City from Nepean, midfielder Oscar Crino of Juventus (Vic.), midfielder Paul Kay of St George, centre back Sean Parton of Frankston City (Vic.) and striker Vlatko Belic of Footscray J.U.S.T.

The others in the 17-man squad are: I. Patterson (goalkeeper, St George), P. Dallimore (goalkeeper, Marconi), M. Fogarty (Marconi), Ian Murray (W.A.), Brett Woods (Auburn, NSW), Socrates Nicolaides (South Melbourne), A. Reiss (Canberra City), S. Curovic (Footscray J.U.S.T.), Dave Skeen (St George) and M. Baker (Tamworth, Northern NSW).

The ASF's youth development officer, Brian Emery, this week praised Victoria for its leadership in producing good young players.

"It's remarkable that one State has done so much in junior development. I wish that the other States were doing likewise," Mr Emery said.



The Victorian team that won the Coca-Cola national youth championship last year. At least five of the players will be in the Australian youth team which will play the Australian Colts at Olympic Park on Saturday night. Pictured, standing from left: Bill Curran (coach), Joe Angele, Vlatko Belic, Charlie Yankos, Steve Blair, Tom Vukovic, Oscar Crino, Mick Loh, Sean Parton, Peter Scarlett. Front: Ernie Toth, George Christopoulos, Paul Drinoczky, Socrates Nicolaides, Sean Keogh, Eamon Beamish, Roberto Trafficante.

'Double-crossed' by the Kiwis

New Zealand has "double-crossed" Australia over the Oceania Cup tournament, the Australian Soccer Federation's Youth Development Officer, Brian Emery, said this week.

He said New Zealand had decided to send its senior national team to the competition in Noumea, after earlier telling Australia it would send a young B team.

Australia's players in the tournament will be no older than 20.

"And they'll give New Zealand plenty of opposition, despite their comparative lack of experience," Mr Emery said.

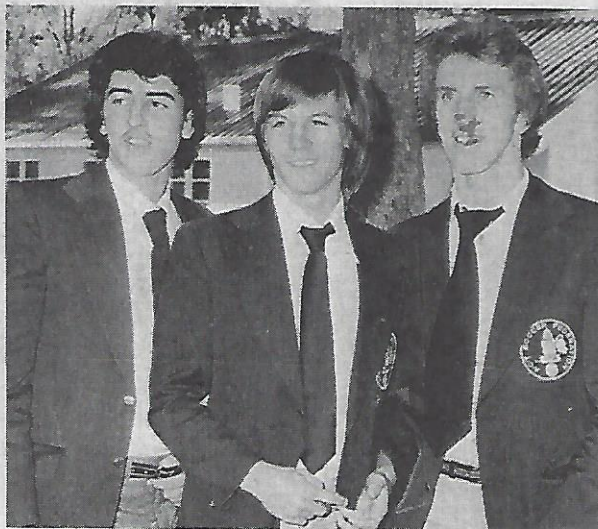
The Oceania Cup tournament will be played from February 22 until March 3.

According to the latest information, the eight competitors will be: Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Solomon Island, New Hebrides, Tahiti, Papua-New Guinea and New Caledonia.

The tournament will be played in two groups of four teams each.

New Caledonia will be seeded in one group and the current Cup holder, New Zealand, in the other.

The winner of each group will play in the final and the runners-up will play off for third and fourth places. — LAURIE SCHWAB



Youth internationals Danny Moulis (left), Steve Hogg and Mike Milovanovic. All three were with Canberra City until Hogg joined Brisbane Lions recently.



Dave Skeen



Alan Davidson

KB UTD. visit a boost for Croydon area

Victorian state league club Croydon City will play against Newcastle KB United on Sunday, February 24, as part of its campaign to win increased support in the Croydon District.

The match will start at 2 pm at Croydon Park, after a curtain-raiser between two local teams — possibly Knox City and Doncaster Rovers.

The Newcastle team will include star recruit Paul Reaney, the former Leeds United and England full back.

Tooths Brewery will meet all costs of staging the match, and a percentage of gate takings will be donated to the Marondah Hospital Fund.

Croydon has invited KB United because, says club marketing director Alan Dobie, it is the "most famous and most professionally-run soccer club in Australia."

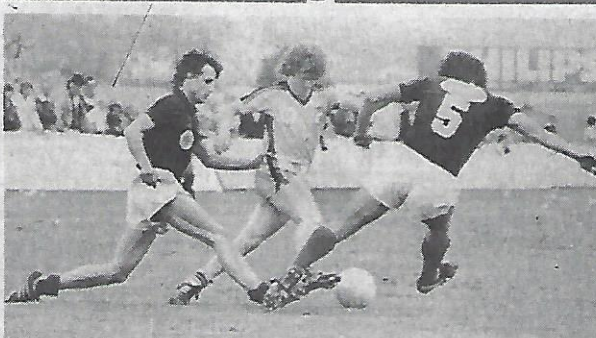
Dobie, recently appointed to the club's marketing post, has been given

many valuable pointers by Paul Trisley, the brains behind Newcastle.

Dobie announced this week that Croydon will be sponsored by the Hotham Permanent Building Society over the next three years. Other sponsors are Ametco Travel, David Cote (plumber), Russell Vernon (take-away food) and Kilsyth Cellars.

Mr. Peter McArthur, MLA for Ringwood, has signed as the club's No. 1 ticket-holder and patron.

Croydon's restructured 1980 administration is: Terry Paradine (president), Dave Baddock (vice-president), Laurie Cooper (secretary), Rick O'Loughlin (treasurer), Geoff Pegg (VSF delegate), John Hannigan (team manager), Marty Koenen (social director), Alan Dobie (marketing and promotion), Henry Bambitt (ground manager), Norm Hobson (senior coach), Graham McIntosh (assistant coach), Ken Kontra (director of junior coaching), Trevor Owen (reserves team coach).



Kb United winger Graham Heys uses his brilliant dribbling skill to skirt past Footscray defenders Igor Hazabent (left) and Jim Kondarios.